

Thatcher says no evidence on Rothschild

By Richard Evans, Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister said last night no evidence existed to suggest Lord Rothschild, former head of the Downing Street "think tank," had ever been a Soviet agent.

Her brief statement came just 24 hours after she had stunned MPs by refusing to immediately clear the peer of allegations that he was the "fifth man" after his personal appeal in a letter to The Daily Telegraph.

Mrs Thatcher said: "I have now considered more fully Lord Rothschild's letter in The Daily Telegraph yesterday, in which he referred to innuendoes that he had been a Soviet agent."

"I consider it important to maintain the practice of successive governments of not commenting on security matters. But I am willing to make an exception on the matter raised in Lord Rothschild's letter."

"I am advised that we have no evidence that he was ever a Soviet agent."

Lord Rothschild, who was a wartime MI5 officer, was informed by Downing Street of the Prime Minister's announcement shortly before it was made at 5pm.

Although Mrs Thatcher declined five times in the Com-

mons on Thursday to give the public assurance demanded by Lord Rothschild, she had already begun consulting ministers and officials about his request.

Those discussions continued yesterday and while Mrs Thatcher would have preferred to have made a statement to the Commons, she believed it was crucial her decision was made known as quickly as possible.

As head of the security services, the Prime Minister will have spoken to Sir An-



Lord Rothschild, who has now been cleared by No 10.

thonny Duff, Director-General of MI5, as well as Cabinet colleagues before making her statement.

But it was unclear last night if she was shown the "unequivocal, repeat unequivocal evidence" which Lord Rothschild insisted MI5 possessed to prove his innocence.

The form of words used by

Mrs Thatcher in clearing Lord Rothschild is similar to those employed by her in 1981 when she said there was no proof that Sir Roger Hollis, former head of MI5, had worked for the Russians.

In spite of the negative tone of her statement, Mrs Thatcher appeared to have satisfied Conservative MPs taken aback by her initial reluctance to immediately clear Lord Rothschild.

Mr Tim Brinton, MP for Gravesend who invited the Prime Minister on Thursday to protect Lord Rothschild's reputation against false innuendoes and smears, said last night: "It was quite clear from her answer then that she needed time so that various people could consider the matter, rather than make a spot decision off the top of her head."

Mr Dale Campbell-Savours, Labour MP for Workington who signed a Commons motion last month raising the possibility of Lord Rothschild being linked to previous spy scandals, said: "I am glad the Prime Minister has felt able to make a statement clearing away these allegations. She should have done so two weeks ago when she was asked to make a statement in a parliamentary motion."

The Government yesterday dropped strong hints that if it fails to win the appeal to prevent highly classified documents from being handed over

Continued on page 20, col 5

Judge tells heir to millions 'you were weak and foolish'



Rosie Johnston, above, Sebastian Guinness, top right, and Paul Dunstan who were all jailed yesterday after admitting drug offences that were brought after the death of Olivia Channon.

Guinness jailed over Channon heroin party

By Craig Seton

Sebastian Guinness, an heir to the Guinness brewing and banking fortune, was jailed yesterday for his part in the death of Olivia Channon, the daughter of Paul Channon, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

Also sent to prison were Paul Dunstan, a heroin addict and drugs pusher and Rosie Johnston, the lifelong friend of Miss Channon, who died of a drink and heroin overdose.

Sentencing them at Oxford Crown Court, on a few yards from Christ Church where Miss Channon, aged 22, died after a party last June, Mr Justice Otton said: "There is perhaps a notion in our society that it is acceptable for the rich and privileged to dabble in hard drugs. It is not and these sentences are intended to show it is not, as well as punishing you."

Both Guinness, Miss Channon's second cousin, and Johnston took part in drug taking at the drunken champagne and heroin party to celebrate the end of Miss Channon's history finals at St Hilda's College.

At the celebration party, Johnston gave her some heroin and said: "There you are - celebrate."

Mr Anthony King, for the prosecution, told the court that Miss Channon was found dead in the rooms of another student at the Blue Boat building of Christ Church on June 11.

But, the judge said that

none of the defendants was responsible "directly or indirectly" for the death of Miss Channon, who had started taking hard drugs in 1985.

After hearing guilty pleas to the charges for which they were sentenced, the judge told the defendants: "Cocaine and heroin are agents of human misery. The courts are determined to play their part in stamping out this evil traffic."

Guinness, aged 23, of Herford Square, London, the son of Mr Jonathan Guinness, millionaire member of the brewing and banking family and former chairman of the Conservative Monday Club, was sentenced to four months imprisonment for possessing heroin and cocaine.

His grim-faced father was in court to see his son described by the judge as "weak and foolish" before being taken away to the cells to start his sentence.

The judge told Sebastian Guinness: "Fortune smiled on you. You had every privilege, the best of education, the best of opportunities in life but here you stand, on your own confession convicted of possessing Class A drugs."

Guinness, he said, was not an undergraduate at Oxford and had travelled specially to the city to participate in the party.

The judge said: "You knew because of your close family

Continued on page 3, col 3

Nato commanders reject Warsaw Pact meeting

From Peter Davenport, Defence Correspondent, Brussels

A Soviet Union proposal for the first-ever meeting between the Commander in Chief of the Warsaw Pact forces and the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe has been rejected by Nato.

The proposal from Moscow was that Marshall Viktor Kulikov should hold face-to-face talks with General Bernard Rogers.

It is seen as part of a series of similar initiatives over recent weeks in which the Soviets have tried to establish direct contact with individual Nato officials both political and military. Some observers believe the purpose of the Soviet strategy is to exert pressure on the allies as they define a common attitude to possible negotiations on reductions of conventional forces in Europe.

In Rome recently Russian envoys proposed a direct contact with the deputy General Secretary of Nato, Mr Marcello Guidi who is currently heading the organization's High Level Task Force work-

ing, cannot speak on behalf of them all.

Lord Carrington, the Nato Secretary General, said yesterday that such indications could not be accepted, adding: "It is not because we are anxious to avoid discussing these things but it is not the right way to bring it about."

The future of General Rogers as the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe remains the subject of speculation. His extended tour of duty in Europe is due to expire in July next year and it has been reported that he may be replaced by General John Galvin, at present the Commander of the US Southern Command in Panama.

Relations between the outspoken General Rogers and the administration in Washington have frequently been difficult but he has indicated his desire to stay on in his post.

Lord Carrington said yesterday that General Rogers had been "magnificent" in his role and he would be pleased for him to stay until he was 100.

Ministers condemn Labour stance

Brussels - Nato defence ministers endorsed their nuclear strategy yesterday and issued a condemnation of unilateral disarmament, which was seen as a thinly-veiled attack on Labour Party policy (Peter Davenport writes).

They said the policy would result in the abandonment by the alliance of its deterrent strategy and the basis for its continued security and stability.

Although Labour's non-nuclear defence policies were not

part of the official discussion, they figured largely in events surrounding the meeting.

General Bernard Rogers, the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, said that if such policies were enacted they would lead to the withdrawal of the 350,000 US troops in Europe.

The US Defence Secretary, Mr Caspar Weinberger, referred to such proposals as "defenceless defence" and Mr George Younger, the Secretary of State for Defence, said no

country has supported Labour's plans.

The rejection of unilateral disarmament was not included in the final communiqué at the instigation of the British, although they were pleased that it was there. Mr Younger said the rejection was already in the draft communiqué when he arrived.

He said it was a totally sensible and truthful view and if it fitted Mr Kinnock's situation this week then he should take note of it.

Japanese economy slows down

Prospects for a recovery in world economic growth have dimmed. If the slower pace is maintained, the Government's hopes for a faster British rate of growth next year could be threatened (Rodney Lord writes).

Japan yesterday announced that its economy had grown by only 0.6 per cent during the third quarter. Growth for the year will now be nowhere near the official 4 per cent forecast.

This comes after a poor third quarter in West Germany and a poor year so far in the United States.

Out of steam, page 21

Small buyers benefit most in gas sell-off

Small investors have received priority treatment in the British Gas flotation (Richard Lander writes). Applicants who sought up to 400 shares will receive their full allocations, Mr Peter Walker, the Secretary of State for Energy, said last night.

"This will mean that more than 2 million small investors in Britain will obtain all the shares they applied for." But he added that there would be scaling down for larger applications, with some people receiving less than 10 per cent of what they sought.

The issue was four times

subscribed. Details of the allocation will be announced during the weekend.

According to Mr Walker, about 4.5 million applications were received, more than Thursday's estimated 4 million, but less than the 6 million hoped for.

"More than half a million of these have been in joint names, meaning that 5 million people will become shareholders," Mr Walker added.

Trading in Gas shares starts on Monday, but shareholders will not receive allocation letters until the next week.

"Halt trading", page 21

Monday

Spycatcher speaks out



On Monday Peter Wright, the man at the centre of the MI5 spy case, goes into the witness box. A profile of the spycatcher whose unpublished book has sent reverberations around the world.

Portfolio Gold

The Times Portfolio Gold daily competition prize of £4,000 was won yesterday by Mr John R. Talbot of Warrington, Cheshire. Portfolio lists, pages 20, 25; rules and how to play, page 31. Today £12,000 can be won - £8,000 in the weekly competition and £4,000 in the daily.

T & N wins

Turner & Newall, the asbestos group, has won the battle for control of AE, the engineering company, after gaining more than 56 per cent of the equity (Page 21)

French help

White Crusader, the improving British entry, moved closer to the Challenger semi-finals of the America's Cup after winning comfortably yesterday, while French Kiss beat America II, the New York yacht (Page 33)

Tax threat

Stricter rules on mortgage tax relief are likely in the wake of this week's Committee of Public Accounts report (Family Money, pages 26 to 30)

Table with 2 columns: Home News, Overseas, Apple, Arts, Births/deaths, marriages, Bridge, Business, Chess, Court, Crosswords, Diary, Events, Law Report, Leaders, Letters, Obituary, Parliament, Religion, Sale Room, Science, Services, Sport, Theatres, TV & Radio, Weather

Commons row over gay slur

By Our Political Correspondent

A front bench Labour MP sparked off a furious Commons row last night after saying some Conservative MPs prominent in the party's hierarchy and bidding for leadership of the country are homosexual.

Mr Jack Straw, MP for Blackburn and Labour's local government spokesman, made his remarks in response to the growing campaign waged by Tory MPs against Labour-controlled councils which promote gay rights.

"The road they tread is a very dangerous one because it is notorious that there are a number of members of the Conservative party, some in high places in the Conservative party hierarchy, who have homosexual tendencies," he said in a Commons debate.

"Those people deserve the same tolerance as Labour councillors trying to help gay and lesbian people in their communities."

Mr Straw, responding to one Tory backbencher who said homosexuals were unfit to be teachers, added: "If it's wrong for homosexuals to teach in schools it is also wrong for homosexuals to seek the leadership of this country and prominent positions within this House?"

It is well known that a small

Continued on page 20, col 4

Paris gives concession to students

From Diane Geddes, Paris

In an attempt to appease French students, M René Monory, the Education Minister, announced on television last night that the Government had agreed to withdraw from its university reform Bill the clauses touching on the three most hotly contested issues.

There will therefore be no change "for the time being" in the present system of entrance to university, flat rate registration fees, and nationally awarded degrees.

The Bill's other provisions providing for greater autonomy in the universities will remain.

Those changes were agreed at an emergency meeting of the ministers most closely concerned. It was chaired by M Jacques Chirac, the Prime Minister, before his departure for the EEC summit in London.

It is by no means certain, however, that the Government's latest concessions will satisfy the students who have been demanding nothing less than the total withdrawal of the whole Bill.

Thousands of students descended into the streets of Paris again yesterday to express their anger over the previous night's violence, which left scores of injured.

Continued on page 20, col 2

Hypnotherapist guilty

Dr Joseph Jaffe, the hypnotherapist accused of "brainwashing" a businessman with drugs, injections and hypnosis, was found guilty yesterday of serious professional misconduct.

The former Mayor of Salford, aged 61, who has a private practice in Manchester where he administered the injections of "Jaffe juice" was

admonished by the General Medical Council.

Dr Jaffe, who also has 2,000 National Health Service patients, was told that he could continue his private hypnotherapy work but only after he undertook to give no more drug injections. Police have started an investigation into the case. Full story, page 4

Catholics agree to contraception advertisements

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Government's current £20 million advertising campaign against Aids, emphasizing the use of condoms, has unexpectedly gained tacit acceptance by the Roman Catholic Church in spite of its official opposition to contraception. Catholic publications are not being advised to refuse Government Aids advertising, and Catholic schools have been given to understand that they may co-operate with Aids-related sex education.

A heavily nuanced policy line has emerged from discussions within the church. Cardinal Basil Hume, Archbishop of Westminster, has declined to attack the

Government's plans, saying only that he "regrets that they are necessary". It is understood that the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, at its meeting last month, deliberately decided not to make an issue out of the Government's promotion of condoms as a safety measure against Aids. The conference also wanted to dissociate the Catholic Church from the view that Aids was a form of divine punishment for sexual wickedness.

Nevertheless, some aspects of the Government campaign are considered more acceptable than others. Those that stress sexual responsibility, even if mentioning condoms, are being regarded as more satisfactory than those which

discuss pre and extra-marital sex as if there were no moral considerations apart from avoiding Aids.

Official Catholic spokesmen have been advised to be very careful what they say publicly. No official publication is being prepared, and it is clear that the "condom strategy" has posed difficult dilemmas in terms of Catholic moral teaching.

One view heard is that condoms may even be morally permissible if the intention in using them is to avoid the spread of disease rather than to prevent conception, even if that is the result.

In Catholic schools, head teachers are being asked to use their discretion, and not to refuse to use anti-Aids sex

education material merely because it is sexually explicit or explains the use of condoms. They are expected to put this sex education material into the context of Catholic teaching on sexual morality.

The Tablet, the most influential Catholic newspaper, stated last month that "explicit public education about prophylactic measures such as the use of the contraceptive sheath is essential" even though the first line of defence ought to be the promotion of the ideal of chastity.

Mrs Victoria Gillick, a Catholic who campaigned in the courts against the provision of contraceptives to girls under 16, said she disapproved of the Government Aids campaign largely because

it would not work. She would prefer a campaign aimed at strengthening the resolve of young women to say "no" to casual sex.

She said the promotion of condoms was likely to encourage the idea that pre-marital sex was acceptable provided it was "safe".

Mr Graham Webster-Gardiner, of the Conservative Family Campaign, said the churches should be promoting the traditional standards of chastity and fidelity as the real remedy to the spread of Aids, and the £20 million the Government was spending on advertising should be used for research into medical treatment against Aids. Leading article, page 17

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NEWS SUMMARY

Little hope for Siamese twins

Surgeons at Southmead hospital, Bristol, were last night unsure if Siamese twins, born joined at the chest and sharing the same heart and lungs, could be separated.

GLC payment legal

Payment of £78 million by the Greater London Council to a property company three days before its abolition, for the upkeep and improvement of its housing stock, was ruled lawful by the High Court in London yesterday.

The London Residuary Body, supported by Hillingdon council, sought to have the payment ruled unlawful, saying that it should have been passed on to the LRB and eventually the boroughs.

He ordered the LRB and Hillingdon to pay the costs of the property company Satman Developments who defended the action.

Surgery for actor Talks on pay plan

The actor Bill Simpson, aged 54, who is seriously ill in hospital, had a minor operation yesterday. His condition was said to be poor but stable.

Mr Simpson, best known for his television role in Dr Finlay's Casebook, was taken to hospital in Ayr 11 days ago.

2 on IRA charges

Gerard Kelly (right) and Brendan McFarlane, two convicted IRA terrorists, appeared in court in Belfast yesterday after being extradited from the Netherlands.



Both face charges of holding prison officers hostage during mass breakout from the Maze prison in 1983. Kelly is also accused of two attempted murders and assault.

Alert on typhoid

A man aged 30 is in St Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth, suffering from typhoid. He was admitted four days ago, but his illness was not confirmed until this afternoon.

Nuclear power Unit studies Sizewell report

A special unit has been formed at the Department of Energy to analyse the public inquiry report on plans for an advanced £1.2 billion nuclear power station at Sizewell, Suffolk.

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, expected delivery of the conclusions by this weekend, nearly four years after the inquiry began.

The Government will not publish the report before a detailed scrutiny, taking some weeks, is completed by the new unit and Mr Walker has reached a decision.

The proposal by the Central Electricity Generating Board is for permission to build an American-type pressurized water reactor (PWR) next to its existing Magnox nuclear power station at Sizewell, on the Suffolk coast.

For the past 20 months a team working with Sir Frank Layfield, QC, the inspector of the inquiry, has distilled the information from 340 days of hearings into a more intelligible form.

The material includes public cross-examinations and a mound of other supporting documents including engineering blueprints and calculations about design and safety, economic forecasts, comparisons between different types of fuel and artist's impressions of the impact of the power station on the Suffolk coast.

It was the longest and most expensive public inquiry in Britain, costing about £20 million; most of it met by the electricity board.

When the submissions by supporters and opponents finished in March last year, no further evidence was admissible in principle, the assessment is based only on the information and arguments to that date.

The impact of the Chernobyl nuclear accident, changes in the comparative economics of various fuels now that oil prices have been halved, and shifts in prevailing public attitudes on the subject of nuclear energy, are not meant to influence recommendations made to Mr Walker.

In effect, Sir Frank and his expert advisers - Professor Christopher Hall, an economist; Professor William Hall, a nuclear engineer; Dr John Vennart, a radiobiologist and Professor John Alexander, a mechanical engineer - were expected to insulate themselves from events which might have overtaken some of the evidence they heard.

Since taking the last evidence 20 months ago, the inquiry team has had two homes.

Five pantechonics were needed to transport 55 tons of documents in March last year; first from Snape Maltings, in Suffolk, where the hearings took place, to an office in Oxford; then last Easter, to premises on a new industrial park on the A34 near Abingdon.

The administrative staff included secretaries with six word processors, who have worked on average a 50-hour week to compile the report.

In the last four months they have been joined by a team of librarians, cross-checking that references referred to in the main report support the evidence that was submitted.

Hindley delay frustrates moors search

By Our Northern Correspondent

The officer in charge of the search of Saddleworth Moor is to again seek permission from the Home Office to take Myra Hindley, jailed along with Ian Brady for the moors murders, to the scene of the hunt.

Chief Superintendent Peter Topping, head of Greater Manchester CID, said after returning from the search scene yesterday that he was anxious she should be taken to the site as soon as possible.

Mr Topping, who has made no secret of his eagerness to take Hindley to the moor under a heavy police guard, believes a visit could end the case, which is now in its 22nd year and has become part of international murder folklore.

Twice in the past two weeks Mr Topping has met senior Home Office officials for talks on the search. He has told them he is convinced that a brief visit to Saddleworth Moor by Hindley will bring the inquiry to a rapid conclusion.

Each time he has travelled on to Cookham Wood Prison, Kent, to seek further information from Hindley to strengthen his case for her temporary release from a life sentence.

Speculation is mounting as to why Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, is prevaricating over the official police request for a visit.

The expensive police search for the graves of two children who disappeared over 20 years ago has been continuing for 16

days without success. An average of 15 Greater Manchester police tactical support group officers and eight body detection dogs and their handlers are combing the gales-lashed moor from dawn to dusk.

The Prison Department press office has refused to discuss the reasons for the delay in a decision by Mr Hurd, and will not speculate as to how long Mr Topping will have to wait. A spokesman would only say yesterday that "various aspects" of the

case were still being considered.

Mr Hurd has also refused to reveal his intentions. Senior police officers believe that Whitehall inertia could strangle the investigation before it can properly succeed.

They are claiming that as sniffer dogs roam relentlessly over bleak peat bogs, and two mothers sit hoping that the bodies of their lost children can be found, the mantle of secrecy has grown tighter around Whitehall.

Stalker saves house as his legal fees are 'halved'

By Ian Smith, Northern Correspondent

Solicitors unexpectedly more than halved their legal charges yesterday so Mr John Stalker, Greater Manchester deputy chief constable, will no longer have to forfeit his home after clearing his name.

Instead of facing repayment of a £21,000 legal bill, Mr Stalker is being asked to pay only a sum already offered through public donations to a special fund set up in his name.

Back at his police headquarters desk for the first time yesterday after taking two weeks' rest because of exhaustion, Mr Stalker said he was deeply grateful.

"I hope this will be the final chapter if not the last page of the Stalker affair. What this has done is allow me and my family to for the first time know exactly where we stand financially. It is an enormous relief," he said.

"We have been living on our nerves for an awfully long time; two weeks' rest helped, this ought helps even more."

The unusually philanthropic gesture by the senior police officers' legal advisers came just 24 hours after the Association of Chief Police Officers refused to contribute towards Mr Stalker's legal bill and declined a Greater Manchester Police Authority request that they administer the fund set up to handle public donations.

Mr Roger Pennoce, who has championed Mr Stalker's prolonged struggle to protect his professional and private reputation, is enraged by the financial pressures piled on his client.

He said: "We have discussed the matter thoroughly and after further consideration have decided to ask Mr Stalker to pay only the

sum which he has readily available and which will not cause his family further pressure."

Mr Pennoce said he knew that at times the pressures on the Stalker family, which had been enormous because of the official police investigation, had been exacerbated by mounting legal costs.

Mr Pennoce has fought long and hard to try to persuade the Greater Manchester Police Authority to foot the bill but without success.

"What has infuriated me throughout is that John Stalker has been penalized for being innocent," Mr Pennoce added.

At a joint meeting of the Police Authority's finance and policy and personnel committees yesterday members decided to recommend that no action be taken over a year-long investigation by Sir Stanley Bailey, Northumbria Chief Constable, into allegations of misconduct by Greater Manchester Chief Constable James Anderson.

The outspoken Mr Anderson infuriated members of the now defunct Greater Manchester Police Authority by telling delegates at a County Police Federation meeting that the committee was obsessed with irrelevant issues and had mounted a deliberate and sustained assault upon the independence and status of chief constables.

Mr Steve Murphy, police authority chairman, said it would be inappropriate to take any action on Sir Stanley's investigation which made no recommendations and reached no conclusions but brought into question the legality of such an inquiry being ordered in the first place.



Sir Robert Armstrong facing reporters at Heathrow Airport (Photograph: Peter Trievnor)

Armstrong has police guard

By David Sapsted

Sir Robert Armstrong, the Cabinet Secretary, and the Government's much-quoted protagonist in the Peter Wright spy-book case, returned to London yesterday conscientiously retaining his out-of-court reluctance to speak about the affair.

It was nice to be back in London, he declared, but he would miss some of the aspects of life in Sydney.

Exactly what aspects, he would not say.

Looking remarkably spry after his 25-hour flight Sir Robert stepped off Qantas flight QF604 to be met by a squad of police. He spent 20 minutes at a Heathrow VIP lounge before being driven away in a limousine.

He stonewalled questions on his "economical" use of the truth in evidence to the court ("The case is still going on so I can't make any comment") and was no more forthcoming about the political storm surrounding the affair in Britain ("I haven't really seen what's been going on here").

He also declined to comment on the scuffle with photographers that marked his departure from Australia.

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Disquiet as firm loses out on £220m

By Martin Fletcher Political Reporter

The Government yesterday awarded two companies a joint £220 million contract for battlefield ammunition transporters known as DROPS, but conspicuously failed to still a mounting political furor over its alleged intimidation, exclusion and mistreatment of a third interested company.

The Comptroller and Auditor General is to investigate, and this may lead to a full inquiry by the Commons Public Accounts Committee.

Mr Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal trade spokesman, and Mr Jim Wallace, Liberal defence spokesman, yesterday tabled a Commons motion calling for a full independent inquiry.

Sir Ian Gilmour MP, himself a former Conservative defence secretary, last night described the affair as "a scandal which will not be allowed to rest".

The Ministry of Defence awarded the contract to Scammell, part of Leyland Vehicles, and to Foden's, a British subsidiary of the American company, Paccar, which is currently bidding for Leyland Trucks.

The company at the centre of the controversy, however, is Boughmans of Amersham, Buckinghamshire, in Sir Ian's constituency, which is understood to be considering legal action against the ministry.

It has been alleged that Boughmans was unfairly excluded from the trials process, that its patents have been stolen, and that it has subsequently been subjected to heavy pressure from the ministry not to make a fuss.

Answering these charges at a press conference yesterday, Lord Trefgarne, Minister of State for Defence Procurement, ruled out an independent inquiry but said that the ministry had agreed to an examination of alleged patent infringements.

General Sir Richard Vincent, who heads the ministry's procurement operations, has been pressured into disassociating itself from a BBC Panorama programme last July which was critical of the ministry.

The regional finals will be: Leeds, Queens Hotel (capacity 300 competitors), Sunday, March 1; Glasgow, Stakis Grosvenor Hotel (150), Sunday, March 15; Birmingham, Grand Hotel (250), Sunday, April 26; Bath, Ladbrock Beaufort Hotel (240), Sunday, May 6; London A, Saturday, June 6, and London B, Sunday, June 7, Park Lane Hotel (300).

The national final will be at the Park Lane Hotel, London, on Sunday, September 6.

Area finals for crossword championship

By Our Crossword Editor

Next year's Collins Dictionaries Times Crossword Championship will again have six regional finals before the national final, but this time the West of England centre will be Bath instead of Bristol, and the Leeds final will precede the Glasgow final.

The qualifying puzzle for the 1987 Championship will be published on Thursday, January 15, and the eliminator puzzle, assuming it is necessary, on Thursday, February 19.

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The national final will be at the Park Lane Hotel, London, on Sunday, September 6.

Engineer dies

An investigation was underway yesterday into the death of Mr John Tilsley, aged 56, an engineering contractor of Ardington Road, Northampton, who was found at the bottom of a heat treatment tank at the Rolls Royce factory in Derby.

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Freed pair deny spy charges

By Angella Johnson

Two Britons imprisoned for more than five years in Zimbabwe on spying charges returned home yesterday maintaining their innocence and said: "It is great to be free at last."

Mr Colin Evans, aged 31, and Mr Philip Hartlebury, aged 36, were detained in Harare under emergency powers on December 31, 1981 and brought to trial for allegedly spying for South Africa and illegally possessing arms.

The men, both former members of the country's Central Intelligence Organisation, yesterday admitted being involved in "normal intelligence work" but denied having spied for Pretoria.

Asked why he thought they had been arrested, Mr Hartlebury said: "Basically, after independence there were too many whites around."

The Foreign Office in London said last night their release would remove a longstanding consular problem between Britain and Zimbabwe.

Secondary heads back out of deal

By John Clare, Education Correspondent

The Secondary Heads Association yesterday refused to ratify the agreement on the pay and conditions of teachers in England and Wales.

The deal was put together three weeks ago at the conciliation service, Acas, and signed by four of the six unions.

In a severe blow to the deal's already fragile credibility, the association, which represents about half of secondary head teachers, and was one of the original signatories, decided unanimously that it would not ratify the agreement unless it provided an improved management structure.

The unexpected development means that the association has effectively aligned itself with the National Association of Head Teachers, which represents most other heads and refused to sign the original deal, as did the second biggest teaching union, the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers.

The Secondary Heads Association changed its mind after taking soundings among its 5,400 members.

Its general secretary, Mr Peter Snape, said: "Our members welcomed the deal's significant achievements, in particular the new contract and conditions of service, the introduction of appraisal and the new negotiating machinery."

But they want an additional management tier on top of the two that have been agreed because schools cannot be run properly without it.

Mr Snape wants these promoted posts to carry additional payments of £1,000, £2,000 and £3,000 a year instead of the £779 and £2,077 that has been agreed.

He acknowledged that this would add significantly to the overall cost unless the full implementation of the pay agreement was postponed.

If the association's proposals were accepted by the three other signatories, they would bring the Acas deal closer to that proposed by Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education.

Meanwhile, another teaching union yesterday registered its opposition to government plans to change the way teachers' pay and conditions are determined.

In a letter to Mr Baker, the president of the Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association protested that the Bill to be debated in the Commons on Monday "effectively abolishes collective bargaining procedures".

Mr Frank Groarke went on: "Not merely do we regard the right of employees to negotiate direct with their employers as being a fundamental characteristic of a democratic society, we are convinced that orderly industrial relations can in the long term flow only from such a process."

Mr Groarke said that teachers were likely to be deeply resentful of the terms and conditions.

Militant 'stooge' in marginal

By Sheila Gunn Political Staff

The Labour candidate to be selected today to fight the marginal Blyth Valley seat in the general election will be "a stooge" of the Militant Tendency, Mr John Ryman, the moderate sitting MP, said yesterday.

Mr Ryman, aged 56, has represented the area for 12 years. He is to stand down at the next election after a year of fights with his local party which, he said, had been infiltrated by supporters of Militant.

On the surface his position is similar to that of Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, who claimed that Militant supporters hounded him out of his Knowsley North constituency.

But the future of Mr Ryman's Northumberland seat is more uncertain because Labour's majority is only 3,243.

Mr Ryman, who has threatened to force a by-election unless there is an inquiry into the conduct of business, has distanced himself from the selection.

"It is entirely a matter for the local constituency Labour Party to select a new Labour candidate," he said.

But he added: "The actual power in the local party is controlled by the Militant Tendency. Whoever is selected will be controlled by Militant Tendency and its supporters."

Bar puts computers in dock

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Bar takes a step into the high-technology age today when more than 300 barristers and clerks meet in London to discuss how to bring their chambers up to date.

The first of its kind, the conference is a sign of the wind of modernization blowing through the ancient passages of the Inns of Court.

The old-style barristers' chambers, with drangly rooms and creaking staircases, are slowly dying out as coal fires have already done.

Now is the time for computers, wall-to-wall carpeting and soft lighting.

Mr Robert Alexander, QC, chairman of the Bar, said that administration had in the past taken second place to a barrister's main work of preparing court cases, which "involve long hours".

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# Oxford set involved in one party too many

By Craig Seton

Rosie Johnston, aged 22, one of three sentenced yesterday in the Channon drugs case, is petite, thin faced and looking younger than her years with jet black hair.

Her family have been on the fringes of high society for many years and are related to the Chancellor literary and publishing family.

Her mother, Suzanne, is a travel writer, her father an architect. They live in a spectacular £400,000 seventeenth century mansion in Shellingford, near Faringdon, Oxfordshire. They also have a cottage in Italy.

Her uncle is the wealthy publisher, Robin Duff, Chancellor of the Spectator.

At Oxford, Johnston, jailed for nine months, was in the second year of a three-year English course. She was a childhood chum and best friend of Miss Olivia Channon.

They lived in a riverside terrace cottage in Doyley Road, Osney, a bohemian area of Oxford by the Thames. The house was owned by Miss Channon.

After her death a torn-up letter from her to Johnston was found at the house. When the 15 fragments were pieced together, it told of Miss Channon's heartbreak split from high society DJ, Mr Jeremy Barnes, whom she called "Jeremy Hippy".

Miss Channon said in her letter he was her first love and she was "madly in love with him".

She wrote: "I quite honestly can't face going through this feeling of rejection again. It's too painful."

Miss Channon began her letter: "By the time you read this I won't be around anymore. But I feel I owe you this more than anyone else in the world."

"But why should the poor thing cope with my emotions? I am sorry to be so stupid but I feel completely and utterly miserable."

Written in blue ballpoint pen and the paper stained with tears, Miss Channon urged Johnston to spend £2,000 from her will on a lavish wake for all their high society friends.

Johnston never received the letter.

Sebastian Guinness, aged 22, is short, muscled and chubby faced with blond hair. He is Miss Channon's second cousin, a member of the huge banking and brewing dynasty, a family that has had more than its fair share of tragedy in recent years.

His father, Jonathan, is a merchant banker, director of the brewers and a former chairman of the Conservative Monday Club.

He divorced his first wife, Ingrid, in 1962 after 11 years' marriage and she wed Mr Paul Channon, Secretary for Trade and Industry, a year later. Olivia was their daughter.

Sebastian is a product of his father's second marriage. Guinness has a penchant for flamboyant dress, wearing dark glasses in all weathers and painting his fingernails black.

Rosie Johnston was his girl friend and in the summer of 1983 they attended a ball hosted by the Queen at Windsor Castle.

Guinness arrived from London especially to celebrate the end of Miss Channon's examinations and to see his sweetheart Rosie.

Guinness seemed to be the least affected by the tragedy and has lost none of his arrogance. After one court appearance in which magistrates refused to give him his passport back so he could go abroad on holiday, Guinness left the court room and screamed "bastards".

Paul Dunstan, aged 31, with a haggard face and spiky hair, used the latest technology to go about his business and was contacted by his customers on a radio pager.

Dunstan knew Miss Channon only as Liz and she met him in sleazy public houses in London. She would hand him an envelope containing £100. He would hand over a gram of heroin.

He is the second of four children and a former altar boy.

He was a working-class man who had tried and failed to be a successful pop song writer and guitarist. His experience in the music business brought him into contact with drugs.

He soon found that supplying top grade cocaine and heroin to the spoilt rich kids of high society was more lucrative.

He lived with his father, Ron, a builder, and mother Edie, a dinner lady, in Elmsmere Road, Willesden, north London, but spent a lot of time with a girl, aged 16, in a seedy Golders Green flat.

Olivia Channon, a privileged member of one of the richest and most powerful families in the land, died from a lethal mixture of heroin, champagne and a constant craving for adventure.

Her ultimately deadly addiction to the monied extravagance and thrills of the high society "smart set" to which she belonged led her to one wild party too many.

Miss Channon had more than £500,000 in trusts and enjoyed an annual allowance of £25,000 during her three years at St Hilda's. She appeared to have everything to live for.

Princess Margaret attended her twenty first birthday ball at the Channons' luxurious house in Chyone Walk. Friends were taken to the Caribbean island of Mustique or its magnificent country house in Essex.



# Heir to Guinness fortune is jailed

Continued from page 1

ties with Miss Channon that she used drugs and you must have known that drugs would be available at that party. You have many good attributes. So many speak well of you, but on this occasion you were weak and foolish and committed a criminal offence."

Mr Richard Du Cann, QC, for Guinness said in mitigation that his client was a young man of good character who was now free of any level of addiction he might have had.

He had used drugs only sporadically in social settings and there was no question of him returning to drugs, even on the most casual basis.

Because of the consequences of what happened and the fact that Olivia Channon was very close to him, it was unlikely that he would reoffend.

"He is a follower, not an initiator," said Mr Du Cann. He said: "Since June he has lived in a void. He feels himself to be a marked man because of the substantial public belief, quite erroneous, that he is responsible for or contributed in some way to Olivia Channon's death. He feels it is quite impossible to pass unnoticed and unvisited."

Johnston, aged 23, of Shellingford Hall, Faringdon, Oxfordshire, was jailed for nine months for supplying heroin to Miss Channon and possessing cocaine, cannabis and amphetamines.

She travelled to London to collect heroin from Dunstan as a "favour" to Miss Channon who was too busy.

The judge told Johnston: "It is a grievous sight to see you in the dock. You were Olivia Channon's best friend. You could have and should have said no. You were foolish and reckless."

Johnston, a former student of Manchester College, London University, came from a good home and had a loving family, the judge said.

He told her: "You may not be the most privileged in your set, but you had many advantages in your life. I have enormous sympathy for you. I

well understood your guilt, shock and distress."

He accepted she was not an addict and that Miss Channon had "already entered upon the drugs scene and had already set up this particular deal."

He went on: "But, you are intelligent, you knew that your best friend was already addicted. You knew she would use the drug."

As she was led away to the cells, Johnston's mother and three sisters burst into tears in court and at the end of the hearing comforted each other with embraces.

Mr Robin Simpson, QC, for Johnston, had appealed to the judge not to give her a custodial sentence.

Describing the effect of Miss Channon's death on Johnston, he said: "It was one of the most profound shock and distress and guilt. She still has the most terrible nightmares and she misses Olivia quite dreadfully."

Dunstan, aged 31, an unemployed musician from north London, was jailed for a total of four years on five charges of supplying heroin to Miss Channon, jointly with Miss Johnston, of supplying heroin to Miss Channon and possession of heroin and cocaine.

The court heard that his heroin addiction cost him between £300 and £400 a fortnight.

Mr Justice Otton told him: "You were a commercial dealer - an out and out pusher. Pushers must expect confined punishment."

Mr Peter Clark for Dunstan said: "He is where the buck stops as far as this matter is concerned. He supplied drugs because he was fearfully addicted to the drug."

The court heard that two other men were facing charges following the arrest of Dunstan.

Det Supt Andrew Vallis, who led the investigation in Oxford into Miss Channon's death said last night: "It is to be hoped that at least some people will have learned a lesson from the tragic events and realize just what the final result of heroin use can be."

# Drug film model gets jail term

A model who once appeared in an anti-drugs documentary on television was yesterday jailed for nine months for possessing and supplying heroin.

Oxford Crown Court was told that Sian Griffiths, aged 21, had paid for the drugs which killed Simon March, her boy friend.

Lynn Guilford, aged 21, of Cuxham, Oxfordshire, was jailed for 21 months after he admitted supplying the heroin and unlawfully killing Mr March by injecting the drug.

The court was told that shortly before last Christmas, Griffiths gave a party at the country cottage she shared with Mr March, a guitarist, in Springs Holly Lane, near

Chinnor, Oxfordshire. The next day, she gave £50 to Guilford, a friend of her boy friend, who obtained the drugs.

An hour after being injected, Mr March was found dead.

Mr Nigel Ruffitt, for Griffiths, said finding her boy friend dead had been a "devastating experience". He blamed Griffiths' father for her involvement in drugs, claiming he had encouraged her to live with a man of 44, now in prison, who used drugs.

Griffiths featured in the ITV documentary *Kick the Habit*, in which her withdrawal from heroin addiction was portrayed.

# Tommy in tune for bird show

Tommy, an Australian sulphur crested cockatoo, taking a spin in his car for Jamie Yates, aged five, and his sister, Elspeth, aged two, of Burton on Trent, Staffordshire, at the national cage and aviary bird exhibition yesterday.

Tommy, aged 30, who can also pedal a tricycle and ride a chariot, is the star of a troupe of performing parrots at the show at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham.

The show, which opens from 10am today and tomorrow, features more than 8,600 budgerigars and canaries competing in 848 classes. Total prize money has been doubled this year to a record £4,643.

(Photograph: Tim Bishop).

# Portfolio Gold - Chance of a family Christmas

A retired businessman was yesterday's only winner of the £4,000 Portfolio Gold prize.

Mr John Talbot, aged 63, of Longham, Padgate, Warrington, Cheshire, was forced into retirement 11 years ago because of illness. He will use some of the money to enable him and his wife Hilda to spend Christmas with their son in Guernsey.

"I always check my Portfolio Gold card in the morning after having breakfast. But this time I checked it at least six times before I would believe the numbers were correct," he said.

"Then I was absolutely delighted because it is such an unexpected windfall."

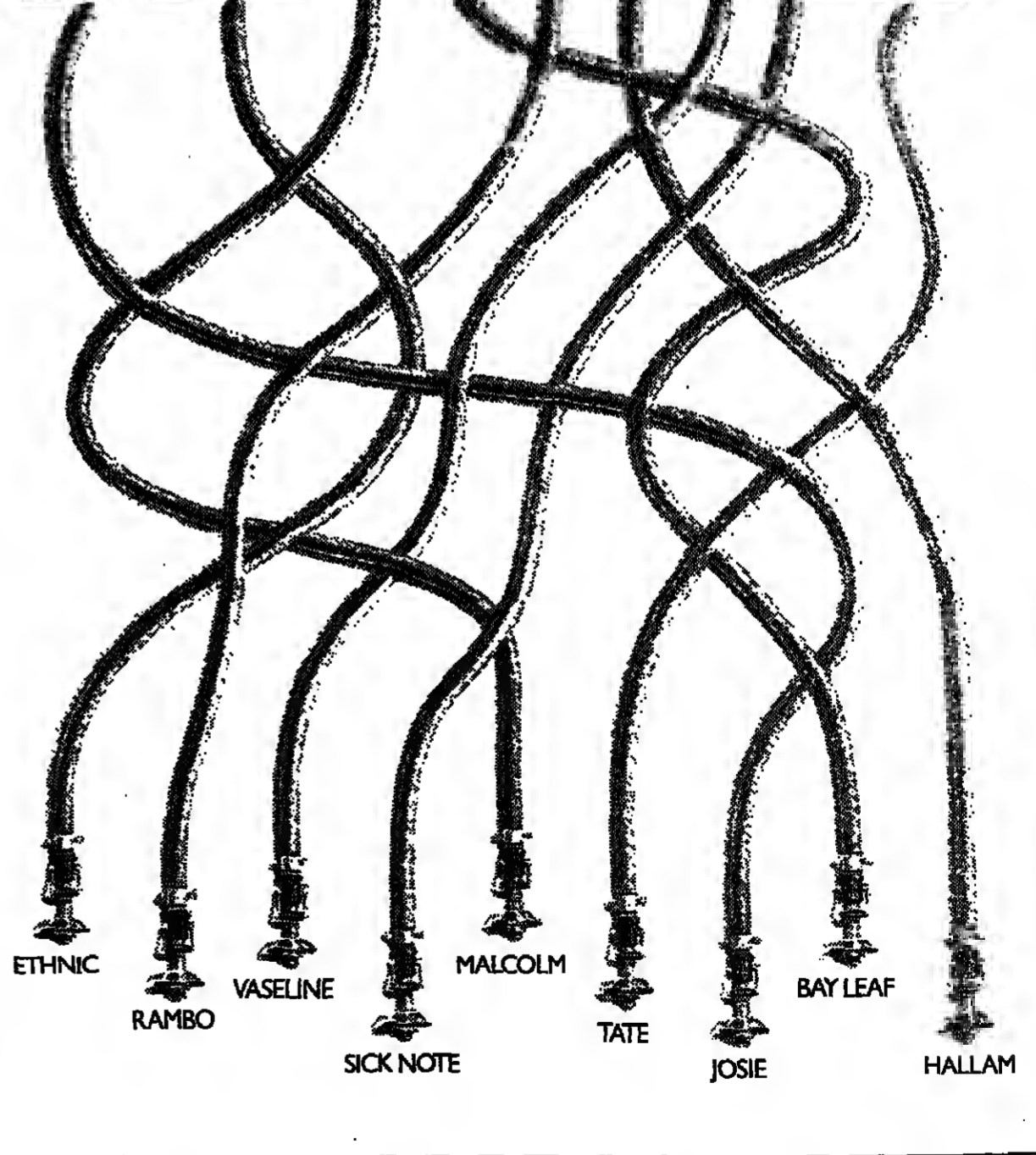
Mr Talbot, who has been a reader of *The Times* all his adult life, says his ambition is to visit Singapore and Australia, where he served in the Royal Tank Regiment during the Second World War.

Portfolio Gold cards can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to: Portfolio Gold, The Times, PO Box 40, Blackburn, BBI 6AJ.

# Kasparov in court move

Gary Kasparov, the world chess champion, went to the High Court yesterday to stop the sale of computer chess games using his name.

Eureka Electronics Ltd gave undertakings to Mr Justice Millett not to import, sell or deal in any way with the computer games until a full hearing of the dispute.



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**LONDON'S BURNING**  
A NEW FILM BY JACK ROSENTHAL  
**SUNDAY AT 9.00 PM**  
LW/T

# 'Bed was called the playpen'

Mrs Veronica Snowball, called her bed "the playpen", an industrial tribunal in London was told yesterday.

Mrs Snowball, aged 46, who claims unfair dismissal as a canteen manager by her former employers, Gardner Merchant, often used to talk about her men friends and sex to a work colleague, it was claimed.

Mrs Snowball, of Harmons Mead, East Grinstead, West Sussex, alleges she was sexually harassed by her former district manager, Mr Bruce Knight.

On the third day of the hearing Mr Andrew Poplewell, for Mr Knight, yesterday asked Miss Dorothy Farley, who used to work for Mrs Snowball, about their sex conversations.

"Did you ever hear her refer to her bed as the playpen?" he asked. "Yes. She had bought a new bed. She jokingly said one morning she had bought a new playpen."

Miss Farley said Mrs Snowball often talked about her men friends and was not reticent about having conversations on sex.

# Work swindle paid for life of luxury

The wife of a power station engineer lived in luxury without knowing it was with the help of her corrupt husband's secret mistress, a court was told yesterday.

Mrs Joan Atkinson, aged 50, was horrified when Crime Squad detectives raided their country mansion and told her of Kenneth Atkinson's £320,000 swindle.

It was revealed that he was aided by his lover of many years, Frances McNally, aged 39, the stores supervisor at the North Tees power station in Haverton Hill, Cleveland.

Mrs Atkinson had never questioned how her husband could afford their six-bedroom house in Brompton, North Yorkshire, a holiday bungalow in Devon, an ocean-going yacht and his own electrical firm on the basis of his £15,000 salary.

She divorced him and took the £43,000 bungalow at Foxhills, Exmouth, in part settlement.

Atkinson would never have managed his Central Electricity Generating Board fraud but for McNally, who became the new Mrs Atkinson in 1984, Teesside Crown Court

was told yesterday.

He ordered everything from lampshades to lawnmowers on the power station's accounts, and the items went straight to his mansion or his factory at Leeming Bar, North Yorkshire.

Mr Geoffrey Rivlin, QC, for the prosecution, said: "It was her (McNally's) duty to check that the ordered goods were received at the power station. She knew what was going on."

He said that Atkinson played a power game with outside contractors on the principle of "no favours - no work".

George Cinnamon, aged 69, head of Teesside Roof and Roadworks Ltd, who has admitted corruption, told police: "I gave him £200 every few weeks for about six years to keep the job right."

The Atkinsons, together with power station manager Geoffrey Varley, aged 61, of Leven Road, Yarm-on-Tees, Cleveland, and 12 contractors admit bribery, fraud, theft and forgery. They will be sentenced next week.

Six others who have denied related charges will be tried later.

# Sex case head gets 18 months

A primary school headmaster who indecently assaulted pupils over a four-year period has been allowed to retire on full pension, a court was told yesterday.

David Holman, aged 50, of Charlestown Primary School, Carpton Bay, Cornwall, was jailed for 18 months for three specimen charges of indecently assaulting boys aged 10 and 11. He asked for seven other offences to be considered.

Mr Justice Stuart-Smith at Plymouth Crown Court said: "Some people might take the view he is lucky not to have been summarily dismissed".

# Indecent acts against pupils

A primary school headmaster who indecently assaulted pupils during bogus research into their physical growth was jailed for six months yesterday at Preston Crown Court.

Peter Morris, aged 42, of Beetham House, Beetham, Cumbria, who measured pupils' bodies in his study, admitted five specimen charges.

# Police head on drink charge

A Regional Crime Squad chief was suspended from duty yesterday after an alleged drink-drive accident.

Chief Inspector Tony Furlzeand, aged 48, stationed at Plymouth, is to be charged with driving with excess alcohol in his blood, after his private car was in collision with another car in Plymouth last Thursday.

# Solicitor plotted home arson

A solicitor who arranged for arsonists to destroy his rambling country mansion so that he could collect the insurance money, was jailed for two and half years yesterday when he admitted conspiracy.

Erian Wordley, aged 50, who gave up a successful solicitor's practice in Wolverhampton to run two equally successful engineering companies, wept in the dock at Worcester Crown Court as his barrister revealed how his

amateurish attempt at crime had led to disgrace and the ruin of his career.

The court was told that he removed paintings, antique furniture and other valuables from Wheaton Aston New Hall in Staffordshire before calling in unknown arsonists to set fire to the Victorian building, which he could not sell.

Mr Anthony Barker, QC, for Wordley, said that when he received £163,000 from the

insurance company for the partly gutted house, he spent the money on rebuilding it.

Mr Anthony Smith, for the prosecution, said a fireman was trapped by a falling beam during the blaze and lay in the burning building until colleagues heard his cry for help.

Wordley's wife Julia, aged 42, admitted making a false insurance claim for a mink coat and was ordered to do 120 hours community service.

1 Disquiet as firm loses out on £220m  
By Martin Fletcher  
Political Reporter  
The Government yesterday awarded two companies a joint £220 million contract to build 100,000 houses in the north of England. The consortium, led by Bovis Lend Lease, has been chosen to build 100,000 houses in the north of England. The consortium, led by Bovis Lend Lease, has been chosen to build 100,000 houses in the north of England. The consortium, led by Bovis Lend Lease, has been chosen to build 100,000 houses in the north of England.

# 'Jaffe juice' doctor is guilty of misconduct but keeps his practice

By Michael Horsnell

The doctor accused of turning a wealthy patient into a "zombie" with an addictive drug concoction called "Jaffe juice" was found guilty yesterday of serious professional misconduct.

But Dr Joseph Jaffe, who specializes in private hypnotherapy, escaped with an admonishment from the General Medical Council.

After Dr Jaffe, aged 61, promised that he would no longer use drugs when he hypnotized patients at his consulting rooms in Manchester, the council allowed him to continue in practice.

He is said to have 2,000 National Health Service patients but only three private patients whom he hypnotizes.

Mr George Waterson, aged 49, a businessman from Altrincham, Cheshire, who al-

leged that five years of drug treatment ruined his business and nearly wrecked his marriage, said afterwards that he was saddened by the outcome.

Police, who were awaiting the result of the hearing, have begun an inquiry into the case.

It is understood that a report has been sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

During the record 16-day hearing in London it was alleged that Mr Waterson fell under Dr Jaffe's spell and was turned into a zombie by "Jaffe juice" during a course of treatment for which he paid between £35,000 and £60,000.

Mr Waterson, married with four children, was referred to Dr Jaffe by his GP in 1978, because he was suffering from stress.

By the end of his association he was allegedly living on the breadline and feeling suicidal, while his once-prosperous bicycle business went into liquidation.

He took on Dr Jaffe's own accountant and allegedly lost all control of the company finances.

The cause of the trouble was said to be the drug concoction with which he was injected up to five times a week, consisting primarily of Briatal, a barbiturate manufactured for use as an anaesthetic, which Dr Jaffe administered before hypnotizing him.

Mr Waterson, who used to drive a Rolls Royce, is defending a High Court case brought by Barclays Bank for the repossession of his house.

The General Medical Council's professional conduct committee found Dr Jaffe

guilty after a 90-minute deliberation.

Principally it found that he had improperly persisted in treating Mr Waterson in such a way as to adversely affect his capacity to fulfil his domestic and business responsibilities.

Mr David Bolt, the committee chairman, said that the committee had reached its conclusion on the basis of expert evidence on the effect of the drug on patients and on Dr Jaffe's failure to warn Mr Waterson of those effects.

He told Dr Jaffe: "The committee have judged you guilty of serious professional misconduct."

"However, they have felt able to take account of counsel's representations made on your behalf and your undertaking that you will not in future use any drug in connection with hypnotherapy in the treatment of patients."

Mr Waterson, who left the hearing grim-faced on the arm of his wife Ann, a nurse, said: "It has been a terrible ordeal. It has been terribly upsetting for me and my family. I really want to put it behind me. I just feel terribly sad."

Dr Jaffe said: "I will make my comments in my own time. I have no idea when I will start work again."

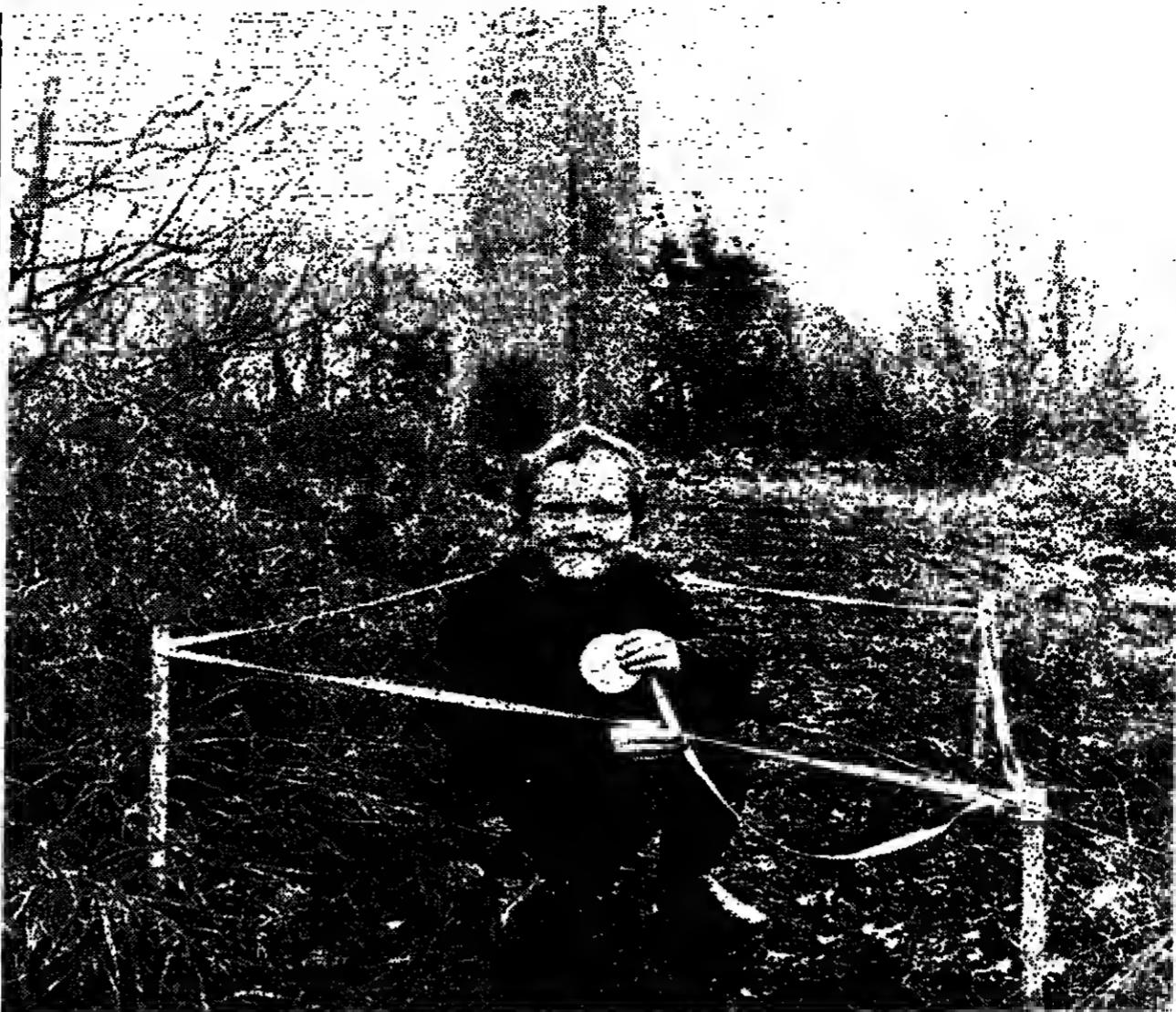
He refused to say whether he felt disgraced or relieved.

Mrs Eleanor Jaffe said: "Of course I am relieved."

Mr Anthony Arledge, QC, counsel for Dr Jaffe, had told the hearing that the doctor had reasonable grounds for his faith in the injections which he gave Mr Waterson but that he would never use drugs again.



Dr Joseph Jaffe yesterday after he was admonished by the General Medical Council



Daniel Hammond, aged five, wraps up his Christmas present - a small piece of England (Photograph: Paul Walters).

## Buy a slice of England for £12 this Christmas

Tiny parts of England are up for sale for Christmas. Six thousand plots of land, each measuring no more than one square metre, can be snapped up for a "bargain" £12.

But there is a catch - new owners will not be able to build on their plot.

It is a fund-raising scheme by the conservation group Friends of the Earth, which had the idea of selling off an acre of land adjoining a nature reserve at Balford, Aven.

The land, beside the Brown's Folly nature reserve, will be kept as a wilderness to protect rare butterflies.

Well-established flora on the site include Twayblade and the Common Spotted Orchid.

The land was donated to Friends of the Earth by a local family who want to remain anonymous.

Now Friends of the Earth is hoping to buy more land in Aven with the £50,000 it

## Crisis for physics lessons in schools

By John Clare, Education Correspondent

New evidence of the crisis in physics teaching in schools is revealed in a survey published yesterday by the subject's main professional body, the Institute of Physics.

It reports that nearly one physics lesson in five in Britain is taught by someone not qualified in the subject.

And it finds that a lack of time and a chronic shortage of resources are together making physics teaching in secondary schools "difficult, if not unbearable".

Responding to a questionnaire, the heads of physics in a sample of schools reported that their teaching groups were too big; they did not have enough laboratory equipment, books or technician support; and that their working conditions were often dirty, cramped and inadequately ventilated.

The survey, the first of its kind to be carried out by the institute, refers to the 1985-86 school year and therefore pre-dates the introduction of the new 16-plus exam, the General Certificate of Secondary Education, with its greater emphasis on practical work and the continuous assessment of pupils' progress.

Many teachers said they did not see how they could cope with the extra demands.

Most reported that time was the greatest pressure: time away from teaching to prepare practicals, try out experiments, mark books, work on new syllabuses and develop the use of microcomputers.

The main reason is the shortage of teachers. The institute says that they are leaving the profession faster than they can be recruited. Consequently fewer students would opt to study physics at university.

## Bill aims for safer sports grounds

By Peter Evans Home Affairs Correspondent

New powers to ensure safety in sports grounds after the Bradford fire disaster last year are proposed in a government Bill published yesterday.

Local authorities will be able to subject to right of appeal to courts, to issue notices restricting or prohibiting admission to grounds where there are serious risks to spectators. The new power will replace the present need for a local authority to apply to a magistrates' court first.

Under the Fire Safety and Safety of Places of Sport Bill, local authorities will be required to carry out inspections of certificated sports grounds and stands in accordance with Home Office guidance.

There will be a new system of safety certificates for stands which hold 500 or more spectators under cover at sports grounds, mostly the smaller ones which are not designated under Section 1 of the Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975.

The Bill also provides for local authorities to licence certain indoor premises to which the public are invited as spectators.

This will bring them into line with present arrangements to licence music, dancing and other entertainments, thus removing an anomaly highlighted by Mr Justice Popplewell's inquiry into the Bradford fire.

## Judges ponder CS gas plea

Judgement was reserved in the High Court yesterday over new powers which enable chief constables to provide plastic bullets and CS gas against the wishes of their police authorities.

Lord Justice Watkins, sitting with Mr Justice Mann, is considering a claim by Northumbria Police Authority that new Home Office guidelines are unlawful.

## Rous's ashes

The ashes of Sir Stanley Rous, the international football administrator, have been scattered on a football pitch at Melford, near Lowestoft, Suffolk, the village where he was born.

### Science report

## Black snow 'worse than acid rain'

By John Newell

New research suggests that when acid rain settles as snow and later melts, the concentrated flood causes far more devastating effects than the steady trickle when it falls as rain.

This conclusion comes from studies in the Cairngorms in Scotland.

The finding has been examined in more detail in connection with another discovery, made a few years ago, demonstrating that the high acid content and discoloration often found in such snow frequently originated from eastern Europe. It was given the nickname "black snow".

Now it is clear from work at the Climate Research Unit at East Anglia University that when black snow melts the effects of acids from it can be multiplied many times.

Tiny particles of wet acid sput from Russian and eastern European chimneys rise up to a height of more than two kilometres and form a stable layer which is carried by winds all the way to Scotland or Wales. There, air currents rising over the mountains, especially the Cairngorms, bring down the polluting particles in snowflakes. They gather much more pollution than raindrops, because of their elaborate shapes.

Dr Trevor Davies, deputy director of the research unit, has been analysing what happens when drifts of black snow start to melt. His findings show that 80 per cent of the acids and other pollutants in the snow trickle out in the first 20 per cent of the snow which melts.

That effect is not entirely surprising since when water freezes, impurities of any kind tend to move to the outside of the ice crystals formed. So they might be expected to emerge first when the ice melts. But the strength of the effect was unexpected.

Dr Davies has found that the concentrations of acids in the water formed in the first hour or so after black snow begins to melt are up to 15 times higher than they are in the unmelted snow as a whole.

There is now an urgent need to look at the biological effects of brief exposure to very high concentrations of acids in melting snow. Although these effects may only last for an hour, for that period, life forms ranging from trees through grass and crops to insects and soil bacteria will be exposed to much higher concentrations of acids than had been suspected.

Research to date has only investigated the effects of such high concentrations on fish.

### Sale room

## Hard cash for rare soft toys

By Geraldine Norman Sale Room Correspondent

High prices were achieved yesterday for 1950s teddy bears and for 16 Kate Greenaway illustrations for *The April Baby's Book of Tunes* at £55,000 (estimate £40,000-£60,000).

A Steiff "Teddy-Baby" in golden mohair, dating from around 1954 and with a squeaker operated by squeezing the tummy, sold for £330 (estimate £60-£80) at Christie's, South Kensington.

A seasonal note was struck by a clockwork nodding reindeer pulling Father Christmas in a green sleigh which made £770 (estimate £200-£300).

Sotherby's sale of children's books and related drawings had a curious pattern of op and down prices with a few lots going exceptionally high. A first edition of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* sold for £49,500 (estimate £3,000-£12,000) to Justin Schiller, the New York dealer in children's books.

The consistently high prices paid for miniature books was the other notable feature of the sale. *Tom Thumb's Play Book* of 1755, the only recorded copy of the earliest known edition of this alphabet book, made £8,800 (estimate £3,000-£4,000).

December 5 1986

## PARLIAMENT

# MPs trade accusations over councils

The activities of left-wing Labour councillors came under spirited attack during a debate opened by a Conservative MP in local government. Labour MPs counter-attacked with strong criticism of Conservative councils, of the Government for undermining local authorities, and of newspaper reporting of council affairs.

Mr Kenneth Elmal (West Lancashire, Con), who opened the debate, said that many councillors now saw their role as challenging that of central government. In many areas, civic pride and community spirit have given way to groups of left-wing Labour councillors. Trotskyists, Militants and their sympathisers, who saw local authorities as mini-Soviets or power bases from which to attack other political parties and pursue their own ends.

The public had not realized that this change had taken place. They still voted in local government elections for the label they had supported throughout their lives.

Sir George Young (Ealing, Acton, Con), a former Under-Secretary of State for the Environment, said that the failures and bloody-mindedness of local authorities had forced the Government to remove more and more powers from them. There was no sinister conspiracy. These were sensible decisions designed to protect local citizens, but they had contributed to the continuing decline of local government.

Six months of Labour control of Ealing Council had achieved as many new members for the Conservative Party as had years of locking up doors. Ealing Council's activities encompassed all that was wrong with local government today. Mr Simon Hughes (Southwark and Bermondsey, Lab) said that there were other local government in which Labour did not recognize the danger in the party and dangers which, transferred to Westminster, would make Parliament far more a totalitarian regime than had ever been seen.

Labour councillors must heed the warning from their own front bench that local government could not be run on the basis that some day some godparent government would bail out their mistakes. Many Labour authorities did a good job. There were others in which people perniciously, misleadingly and anti-democratically were corrupting local government every single day.

Perhaps some of these local authorities had been a little ham-fisted, but at least they were trying. They deserved a great deal more sympathy from MPs, whether straight or gay, than they were getting at present. He was worried about the intolerance of democracy within the Conservative Party, "if an MP convinced that the Tories would not stop from inspiring a military coup in this country to thwart the socialist policies of a Labour government. When they

were actually highly intelligent and articulate. They derived more from anarchism than socialism. They were determined to destabilize society. They wished to undermine family values, destroy respect for the forces of law and order and create financial instability in the areas under their control.

The Labour Party had to be careful of those people in its midst. Sooner or later, they would lead to its destruction. Mr Alfred Dubs (Battersea, Lab) said that there had been an attempt by the Conservatives to

see the capitalist system under threat they would stop at nothing to remove a Labour government."

The campaign was trying to hide what the Tory and Liberal councils were up to. In Berkshire, the Christmas lunch for school children would be normal for those who paid and bangers and mash at a separate table for those on free school meals. That was the kind of policy pursued by Conservative-controlled councils.

Lambeth had a better record than Wandsworth, with lower rate and rent rises and more new homes being built. Yet it was the Lambeth councillors who had been purged and thrown out of office.

Mr Jack Straw, an Opposition spokesman on the environment, said that many of the speeches made by Conservative MPs today had started in the gutter and finished in the gutter.

Some Conservative MPs had objected to Labour councils trying to ensure that people with gay or lesbian tendencies were treated fairly. The road they trod was a very dangerous one because it was notorious that there were a number of Conservative MPs, some in high places in the Party hierarchy, who had homosexual tendencies and they deserved the same tolerance as Labour councillors trying to help gay and lesbian people in their communities.

"They had better put up or shut up on this issue. If it is wrong for homosexuals to teach

in schools, is it also wrong for homosexuals to seek the leadership of this country and prominent places within this House?"

Across the country the Conservative Party had lost the support of the electorate in council election after council election. It had never been weaker in Britain's town and county halls. The modern Conservative Party was unable to cope with defeat and so it sought scapegoats on which to vent its wrath.

Dr Rhodes Boyson, Minister for Local Government, said that there were a number of people within the Labour Party who were doing things which would damage first that party and then the rest of the country.

Where such people had taken over they spent as if there was no tomorrow, politicized council officials and ran their own foreign policy in mini-Soviets.

On homosexuality, he wanted no persecution of anyone, but most people in this country had a normality, the family. To have anything else was anti-life and the end of life.

New Society had referred to the Salem witch trial of Miss Maureen McGoldrick. It had been done against the wishes of Mr Kinnock and other people and was like an eastern European or Russian show trial. What that lady said as she went through was something he would not wish on his worst enemy.

Since you did not see me either, you may care to know that I did not draw my sword."

Mr Simon Hughes (Bermondsey, Lab) said he had no knowledge of where the information had come from. He had asked Mr James Wallace. They were the two tellers.

To his recollection, there was discussion between the clerk at the table and the Deputy Speaker about the delay in the lobbies. An order was made by the Deputy Speaker that the Serjeant-at-Arms cause inquiries to be made as to what was causing that delay. After that, a group of MPs came out quickly.

"I guess that there was a delay of some minutes. It certainly was not as long as 10 minutes. There was the unusual occurrence of the Deputy Speaker's request. The story was partially accurate, and partially inaccurate."

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**Simon Hughes: Labour cancer**

smear certain local authorities purely for political advantage.

The actions of Conservative-controlled Wandsworth Council were a thousand times worse than anything attributed to Labour local authorities.

Mr Frederick Silvester (Manchester, Withington, Con) said that five chief officers had resigned since Labour took control of Manchester City Council, at least two of them under duress.

The council had refused to hold a VE Day parade for old soldiers, it had abolished the police band, it had put Nelson Mandela on its Christmas cards and removed portraits of the Queen from its offices. The cumulative effect of these changes, which in themselves might be considered trivial, was that the traditions of the city had been undermined and changed.

Mr Tony Banks (Newham, West, Lab) said that this Government had consistently done its utmost to undermine local government. Why, when a local council tried to do something about discrimination against gays and lesbians, was there an enormous reaction from Conservative MPs? Did they believe that there should be no attempt to end such discrimination?

Perhaps some of these local authorities had been a little ham-fisted, but at least they were trying. They deserved a great deal more sympathy from MPs, whether straight or gay, than they were getting at present.

He was worried about the intolerance of democracy within the Conservative Party, "if an MP convinced that the Tories would not stop from inspiring a military coup in this country to thwart the socialist policies of a Labour government. When they

**THE PRESS**

Mr Walker who had confirmed that he was not in the Chair on Wednesday night when that supposed incident took place.

"In *The Times*, the other half of the Wapping press, it was stated that the MPs who were in the lobby succeeded in topping 10 minutes off the Alliance defence debate. That suggests that that division must have taken something like 22, 23 or 24 minutes instead of the usual 12 to 15 minutes."

He (Mr Skinner) had asked the Deputy Serjeant-at-Arms to confirm in writing that he had never seen him (Mr Skinner) in the voting lobby and that according to the *Official Report*, the vote was taken at 7.32pm.

The next debate began at 7.47pm, despite a point of order having been raised in the chamber before the debate.

"I have now received a reply in which he says: 'I can confirm each of the points in your letter.'

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WORLD SUMMARY

Six die in Delhi temple battles

Delhi - At least six people, three paramilitary troops and three Sikh civilians, were killed yesterday as paramilitary forces opened fire to disperse Sikhs and Hindus at the Bangla Sahib temple, where the Sikhs were attempting to hold a religious procession (Our Correspondent writes).

Guerrillas shoot 13

Delhi (Reuter) - Tribal guerrillas stormed out of the jungle with rifles and sub-machine guns blazing, killed 13 Bengali settlers and set their village in Tripura state on fire on Thursday night, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported.

Death threats

Stockholm - Death threats have been made against Mr Sten Andersson, Foreign Minister of Sweden, left, a close friend of Mr Olaf Palme, the assassinated Prime Minister, it was revealed yesterday (Christopher Mosey writes).

Extradition refusal

Jerusalem - Israel has turned down a request by France for the extradition of Mr William Nakash, aged 25, who was convicted by a French court for the murder of an Arab in Besancon in 1983 (Ian Murray writes).

Britons in air crash

Cairo - Two Britons have survived a plane crash in southern Egypt and been rescued by helicopter, according to the British Embassy (Reuter reports).

Tourists in danger

Bangkok - Proposed visits by foreign tourists to the former royal temples at Angkor in north-west Cambodia have been cancelled after warnings by the Khmer Rouge that the visitors would not be safe (Neil Kelly writes).

Propaganda coup for Kremlin

Concession on Salt enhances Gorbachov's peace image

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The Soviet Union announced last night that it will continue to observe its strategic arms limitation treaties with the US, despite the Reagan Administration's recent decision to exceed the ceiling set by the unratified 1979 Salt 2 agreement.

The Kremlin's conciliatory move was seen in Western circles as a skilful attempt to secure the maximum international propaganda advantage from Washington's action last month at a time when the White House is in deep internal political difficulty.

There was immediate diplomatic speculation that the latest gesture towards boosting the Soviet Union's image as the most peace-conscious of the superpowers by Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, might be followed by a further extension of its soon-to-expire moratorium on nuclear testing, despite repeated warnings here to the contrary.

"There is no doubt that once again the Soviet side have played their cards more effectively," one senior Western diplomat said. "What the Reagan Administration did has played right into their hands and given them another propaganda triumph."

A lengthy statement issued by Tass, the official Soviet news agency, claimed that, as a result of the US putting into service its 131st heavy bomber armed with cruise missiles without dismantling an equivalent nuclear weapon delivery vehicle, Moscow had grounds to regard itself free of the limits imposed by Salt 2 and the earlier Salt 1 treaties.

"At the same time, the Soviet side believes that there is still an opportunity for stopping the dangerous course of events that is being provoked by the irresponsible actions of the present American Administration," the statement added.

UN censures Chile and Iran over human rights

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York

The United Nations General Assembly has censured Iran and Chile over human rights violations. It also accused Soviet forces and the Afghanistan Government of atrocities against civilians.

Vietnam veteran kills 27 in Bogota



Medics removing a body, left, from the scene of slaughter at the Pozzetto restaurant in Bogota where Delgado ran amok.

Bogota - Hospitals yesterday appealed for blood donations to save survivors of a massacre carried out by a deranged Vietnam war veteran who killed 27 people, including his mother, when he ran wild on Thursday (Geoffrey Matthews writes).

Even in a country as notoriously violent as Colombia, the mayhem wrought by Campo Elias Delgado, who served with United States forces in Vietnam, sent shock waves through the nation. The "Rambo-style bloodbath", as the press has dubbed it, ended when Delgado shot himself dead as police closed in on a pizza restaurant in the central Chapinero district where most of his victims died.

The slaughter was quickly likened to the McDonald's restaurant murders in

which 20 people were killed by a crazed gunman in the US two years ago. A copycat element could not be dismissed given that Delgado, aged 52, lived for several years in the US and served with its Army, either as a combat soldier or medic in Vietnam. Indeed, at the height of the blood-letting, Delgado was heard to boast that he was a Vietnam veteran.

Among the dead was the daughter-in-law of former President Betancur, whose four-year term ended in August. Eleven people were wounded, several critically.

Delgado reportedly left the US 15 years ago and returned to Colombia to live with his mother in a Bogota apartment. The relationship was tense and often violent, said neighbours who claimed that he often beat his mother.

She was his first victim, shot through the head at point-blank range. He wrapped her body in newspaper and set it ablaze before going to nearby apartments on the pretext of needing a phone to call the fire brigade where he killed six neighbours.

After other families barricaded themselves in their flats, he left the building and walked 10 blocks to the pizza restaurant where he was a regular customer. He sat at the bar and drank eight vodkas with orange juice and then ordered wine and a plate of spaghetti. Delgado then went to a toilet with a briefcase and returned brandishing a revolver and hunting knife. Of the 35 people, customers and staff, in the restaurant he shot and killed 20. Several victims begged for their lives.

Freed Zapu chief remains defiant

From Jan Raath, Harare

Mr Damiso Dabengwa gives not the slightest hint that he has spent the last five years in the crushing environment of a jail.

Rather, he has emerged with a riveting presence that can only remind Zimbabwe's political chiefs that he cannot be ignored if he does not wish to be.

It is, perhaps, the same presence that persuaded the white judge who acquitted him of charges of treason in 1983 to say that Mr Dabengwa was "the most impressive witness the court has seen for a long time".

Goated, tall and tending to portliness - understandable after so long with limited exercise on a stodge diet - is the articulate former guerrilla strategist exudes calm, alertness and, above all, defiance.

He held a press conference, five hours after his release, on the unkept laws of the home of Mr Joshua Nkomo, his mentor and the leader of the opposition party, Zapu. He made it plain from the start that he was angry about being "unfairly" detained, and that he would brook no conditions to his release. He also took a swipe at the Government.

Soviet students to get more state aid

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

A new system of grants to students at the Soviet Union's 894 universities, colleges and institutes is to be announced in the next few weeks as part of Mr Mikhail Gorbachov's reform of the antiquated higher education system.

Details of the grants, which are expected to double the monthly grant to the brightest students from 50 to 100 rubles (£100), were revealed this week by Professor Boris Tamm, the Rector of Tallinn Technical University in Estonia.

He said the changes, which had been the subject of much internal debate, will be published by Mr Gennady Yagodin, the Minister of Higher Education.

"The main purpose of the revised scale of grants is to provide proper incentives for students to study harder, and also to provide them with more free time to pursue their studies by making it less vital for them to take jobs on the side in order to support themselves," Professor Tamm said.

Although higher education is free, the low level of state cash to all but a tiny elite of students forces large numbers of less gifted students to take on menial jobs.

Republicans press President to speed up arms inquiry

From Michael Binyon, Washington

President Reagan yesterday met the congressional Republican leadership to discuss what further steps Congress would take in investigating the Iran affair.

Senator Robert Dole, the Senate Republican leader, wants him to call a special session of Congress to enable it to authorize the investigations and appropriate money for them now. The Democrats, however, oppose this and want to wait until next month when Congress reconvenes with a Democratic majority.

The Republicans say a special session will speed up the investigations, which are debilitating the US Government. But Senator David Durenberger, the Republican chairman of the Senate intelligence committee investigation, said Mr Reagan could himself speed things up. "If he chose to get all of the facts and make them public, it would hasten the process."

In a move designed to assuage the strong criticism of the Iran arms sales within the Republican Party, Mr Reagan

indirectly admitted for the first time yesterday that mistakes were made in the way arms were sold to Tehran and in the diversion of funds to Nicaragua.

Mr Larry Speakes, the White House spokesman, said on television that the President agreed that "there were some mistakes in the diversion of funds, in some of the implementing processes involved in the Iranian issue". Vice-President George Bush has already said that "clearly mistakes were made," and Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, has gone further and said that Mr Reagan had received "very bad advice" on the issue.

But Mr Robert McFarlane, the former National Security Adviser who was clearly the target of Mr Weinberger's criticism, laid the blame squarely on the President. He told the Senate intelligence committee, according to *The New York Times*, that Mr Reagan gave advance approval to Israel's sale of arms to Iran, despite Administration assertions to the contrary.

He told the committee that on Mr Reagan's instructions, he informed the Israelis in August 1985 that he would "condone" the Israeli shipment, and would sell Israel replacement parts for the anti-tank missiles sent to Iran.

Mr McFarlane also confirmed that he had been told of the secret diversion of funds for the Contras by Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North, the former NSC military adviser, while they were on a mission to Tehran for Mr Reagan.

His testimony contradicts the statement by Mr Edwin Meese, the Attorney-General, who said that Mr Reagan had only been told in general terms of the first Israeli shipment in September last year.

Meanwhile, a poll released yesterday showed that Americans think former President Carter did a better job than President Reagan in dealing with Iran.

An NBC television poll said 30 per cent of those asked now say Mr Carter did a "good" or "excellent" job in dealing with Tehran. Only 17 per cent rated President Reagan that highly.

Contras to 'educate' Europeans

By Phillip Jacobson

The Nicaraguan rebels begin two-day conference in London this morning aimed at "educating" western Europe about their struggle against the Sandinista regime.

Dr Arturo Cruz, the main speaker at the conference, was once a member of the Sandinista Government and later Nicaragua's Ambassador in the US. After the defeat of "the betrayal of our revolution", he joined the United Nicaraguan Opposition (UNO), an umbrella organization for the Contra movement.

He concedes that the turmoil over the Reagan Administration's dealings with Iran has inflicted serious political damage on the Contras, raising serious questions about the readiness of the new Democrat majorities in the US to continue US military support.

"This Iran business could not have been more badly timed for us," Dr Cruz said yesterday. "We were just beginning to feel the benefits of improvements in our organization which would certainly have improved our standing in the US and elsewhere."

One persistent criticism of the UNO has been that moderate civilian leaders were kept in the dark by the military wing about what was happening to the millions of dollars intended for furthering the war effort.

"It's possible some of the Iranian money found its way from that famous Swiss bank account into our military operations," says Dr Cruz. "Obviously something like this puts us on the defensive but, provided there is full public disclosure of what really happened in the Iran scandal, we are optimistic about coming out in good shape when the dust settles."

Reagan snarled by Watergate factor

Bob Woodward is back on the front page of *The Washington Post* with explosive revelations. President Reagan, grim-faced, is promising that the American people will get the facts. A sceptical Congress is holding a special inquiry with senators jostling to get in front of the television cameras and vent their righteous indignation.

Nervous White House aides are quarrelling with each other, while anxiously wondering what there is to come out. Opinion polls are plunging, the rhetoric is rising, the affair is becoming obsessive. It seems like Watergate all over again.

It is precisely this feeling that has set the Iran crisis on a course that seems unstoppable. The entire country is reacting with set responses. The press is salivating at all the Pulitzer prizes to be won for ferreting out skulduggery. *The Washington Post* has come into its own again, far ahead of its rivals and relishing its championing of democracy and the Constitution against wrongdoing on high.

And Congress, remembering the glory that finally rewarded Sam Ervin and his dogged persistence, has turned anger and embarrassment into powerful tools of self-promotion.

Republicans have tried to outdo the Democrats in their moral hyperbole. Virtually every House and Senate com-

mittee wanted to be in on the act with its own hearings, until the proliferation became absurd. Even now, the House Representatives has refused to leave it all to the Senate, and will set up a parallel investigation.

All other politics have vanished from the media. Political gossip feeds on every latest disclosure. Every detail now seems significant: who knew

Washington View

By Michael Binyon

what, and when; what memo was written, what clandestine meeting arranged, what unlikely outsiders brought into the conspiracy. The business of government seems to have come to a halt.

The Salt 2 arms treaty is breached with hardly a flicker of attention here. The post-Reykjavik débacle in arms control has prompted no further public discussion. The clamour for trade protectionism in the face of soaring deficits has been stilled.

The Secretaries of State and Defence travel to Europe with America's mind unfocused on their missions, while the ill-timed arrivals here of such figures as Mr Neil Kinnock or the President of Costa Rica have gone almost unrecorded.

There is, understandably, a nervousness and insecurity in the White House.

Everyone is pointing fingers at everyone else. Those dismissed or out of office have begun to blame their former superiors. The spokesmen have become meekly reticent, the insiders sparing with their background information. Everyone is waiting for the lead from the President.

As with President Nixon, the crisis has become a personal one for Mr Reagan.

And the perception of vulnerability has suddenly unleashed long pent-up criticisms, even by those who joined in the earlier chorus of admiration for Mr Reagan's handling of his job. The criticism is not that he is devious but that he is idle.

*Time* magazine outlined in devastating detail his light daily workload. The President, it said, arrives at his office at 9 am - almost two hours after most US chief executives - has a 30-minute daily briefing and asks few questions apart from "what do I have to say?"

His morning is usually spent on promotional events - meeting an athletic team or a delegation from the American Dairy Association. His lunches are spent once a week with the Vice-President or Secretary of State, and in the afternoon he receives visiting heads of state or State Department officials with a rundown of "talking points" on cue cards.

On Wednesdays he takes

the afternoon off, and on Fridays he leaves at 3 pm for Camp David. Otherwise, he stays in the office until about 5 pm. He reads little, with memos on policy options kept to one or two pages and foreign policy papers kept to five. He rarely calls his aides for advice.

"I've known for five years that the President was incompetent. Why has it taken the media so long to recognize this?" a caller asked on America's best-watched discussion programme yesterday.

"If Ronald Reagan does not have his finger on the pulse of this nation, he's incompetent and should resign," another in the audience said. "If he has done something illegal, he should be impeached."

Harsh words that would not have come only a month ago. America has a tendency to swing to extremes. The collective memory of Watergate has pushed the pendulum farther and faster than anyone expected. It is not Watergate, as so many have pointed out.

Mr Reagan has taken those immediate steps to stem the crisis that had to be forced through the courts and in Congress on Mr Nixon. But the Watergate syndrome has taken over. Too many politicians and journalists are counting on glory in playing out their assumed roles to allow a calmer assessment. It will, as everyone admits with a sigh, go on and on.

Iran says it paid \$30m in US-approved deal

Tehran (Reuter) - The Iranian Parliamentary Speaker, Mr Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, has said that Tehran paid \$30 million (£21 million) for a shipment of American weapons parts, knowing that Washington had approved the delivery.

He said after a Supreme Defence Council meeting on Thursday night that Iran had bought US arms from dealers

for six years "but this time we knew that the US had agreed to that one shipment".

"It became known recently that it came from American warehouses. We did not know this part," Mr Rafsanjani told Tehran Radio.

Mr Rafsanjani, who first referred to the deal in a speech a month ago, touching off the controversy, said: "It was really not imaginable for us

that the American ruling machinery could be so flimsy. It appears that the organization of the American rulers has collapsed."

He repeated denials that weapons came from or through Israel, but left open the possibility that dealers might have lied to Iranian authorities on the itineraries of the aircraft which delivered arms. "Now that they claim a

plane has come from Israel, it might be that they (dealers) lied to us then; that is, a plane was coming from Tel Aviv but they did not tell us," he said.

"But we think this is unlikely because they were aware of the possibility that we might find out and cause problems, because we definitely reject shipments by aircraft or vessels which come from Israel."

Bill aims for safer sports grounds

By Peter Evans

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Samery in television appeal

President tries to quell unrest over Brazil's austerity policy

From Mac Margolis, Rio de Janeiro

Buffeted by a wave of anti-government sentiment and a slump in popularity ratings, President Sarney of Brazil went on national television last night to defend a series of stringent austerity measures and to rally the country behind his efforts to win more favourable terms for payment of the nation's \$103 billion (£72 billion) debt to foreign creditors.

His voice at times heavy with emotion, Senhor Sarney called upon his audience of millions to shake off "defeatism".

"We left behind recession, a great scarecrow that meant lack of jobs, closed-down factories, misery, hunger," he said. "We're in the best period of our history, a period of growth, a moment of great transformations."

Alternating his customary avuncular smile with a brooding frown, Senhor Sarney, in a black suit and tie, spoke for 34 minutes and invoked Mark Twain, John Kenneth Galbraith, the liberal economist, and even John the Baptist during the broadcast.

"For one year I preached alone in the desert," he said, referring to his contentious first year in office, when he tried to promote a "social pact" for dialogue between labour and management.

"I was forced to make reforms on my own," he said, in a reference to the February inflation-fighting plan, the Cruzado Plan.

In a tone that wavered between triumphant and defensive, Senhor Sarney declared to the nation that he was there to "assume responsibility" for Cruzado II, the recent battery of harsh economic reforms which provoked a public outcry.

His televised message, which bore no news, has been

viewed widely here as a belated attempt to buff a tarnished public image.

Two executives from Brazil's leading television network, TV Globo, directed the President as he rehearsed the speech.

Senhor Sarney, aged 56, an experienced politician and also a poet, has skillfully used television to garner public sympathy for past programmes, such as February's Cruzado Plan.

However, it was not the President but his ministers of economy who, in a stumbling and disjointed presentation, announced in November the latest array of "adjustments", such as stiff rises in public utility rates and sales taxes on petrol, cigarettes and alcoholic beverages.

Senhor Sarney, after almost two weeks of silence, justified the reforms as the only means to "protect the gains of the Cruzado Plan", threatened by a boom in consumer spending that pushed the economy to the limits of production and spawned a spreading black market.

He said: "The measures avert greater difficulties. They strengthen our economy (as we prepare for) renegotiation of the foreign debt."

Yet, Senhor Sarney was reportedly stung by the reaction to Cruzado II, which boiled over into a night-time rampage of looting and burnings of government vehicles in Brasilia a week ago.

Senhor Sarney also criticized "enemies" of the Cruzado Plan, referring to the labour unions which have issued a call for a general strike on December 12.

Appearing again for a "social pact" between unions and management, he said: "It is time to unite our forces, not to divide them."



UN war on killer disease

Gurkhas recruited to take part in medical crusade

From Paul Valley, Kathmandu

It was like a parody of the 15 years they had spent in the British Army. Back in their mountain homeland a squad of 80 recently discharged Gurkhas were again doing drill, only now the hard parade grounds of Hong Kong had been replaced by the soft grasses of Dharan in the foothills of the Himalayas.

Their uniforms and square-bashing hats had altered, too. They wore shorts and T-shirts, carried United Nations folders in their left hands and marched to the shouted rhythm of "mum-chin-pam" which in Nepali means "salt-sugar-water".

The ex-servicemen are the latest recruits in a war against diarrhoea being waged by Unicef, the UN relief agency, in one of the poorest countries in the world, where one in five children die before their fifth birthday and where dehydra-

tion through diarrhoeal diseases is the leading killer.

"The Gurkhas are perfect messengers," said Mr George McBean, the Unicef field officer who is responsible for training the former British soldiers in their new role and who spent last week in Dharan training the latest contingent.

"When they are discharged they return to their homes in remote areas as well-respected men. They are the potential social leaders, well-equipped to combat ignorance and counter some of the harmful folk remedies which kill as many as 45,000 children a year."

At the end of 15 years' service in the British Army, members of the Gurkha Regiment are given a modest pension and booked into a government retraining scheme run in the east of Nepal. There they are prepared for their

return to the hard life of a farmer in the Himalayan highlands.

They are taught the rudiments of house building and how to run the farms which most have acquired through their army pay during their military careers. Recently a new component has been added to the course - several days of health training by Unicef.

"Many of their farms are in the really remote regions where it is difficult for anyone else to reach on a regular basis. There are still many places in the hills which can only be reached by a journey on foot of as much as two weeks. There are no roads and most homes do not have a radio," said Mr McBean, who was about to begin work on the course for his fourth batch of Gurkhas.

"It has been a great success."

Gurkhas, having selected someone to be the "baby", taking part in a game that teaches ways of heading diarrhoea; and, below, an ex-soldier learns to be a child health consultant.



Already we have feedback from the first groups with remote villages contacting us for further information on many health matters. It also means we are building up a network of reliable people in each area who can assist when we run things like immunization campaigns."

The involvement of the Gurkhas is only one element in a national campaign which hopes to make a significant impact on infant mortality in a country where only 11 per cent of the population has access to clean water.

The education of highland peasants in the use of unicef-*chi-pam*, the homemade variety of commercially produced Oral Rehydration Salts which vastly increase rates of recovery by using glucose to bind the essential salts lost in diarrhoea, could halve the number of child deaths by 1990.

Man freed after 16 years in detention

Karachi - A man, aged 75, who had been under detention for the past 16 years without being charged or coming before a court, was released yesterday on the orders of the Sindh High Court (Zahid Hussain writes).

According to the petition filed by the Prisoners' Aid Society, the detainee, Mr Mukhtar, was arrested in 1970 by the Karachi police. The court has asked the Advocate General to ascertain the facts about the detention.

Chalker in Uganda

Kampala (AFP) - Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for the Foreign Office, arrived in Uganda yesterday for a two-day visit, her second to the country this year.

Mrs Chalker is expected to hold talks with President Museveni and other officials on future British assistance to Uganda.

Prisoner wins a bonus

Peking (Reuters) - China's economic reforms have finally reached the plastic shoe factory at the Peking Number One Prison.

When a prisoner designed a successful new model of shoe, he was given five days off work and a 100 yuan (£19) bonus.

Nazi inquiry

Canberra (Reuters) - A Government commission said that 70 Nazi war criminals might be living in Australia and a special body should be set up to investigate and perhaps prosecute them. The commission has given the Government a secret list of the alleged criminals.

Tap thefts

Moscow (Reuters) - Theft of state property is so widespread in the Soviet Union that employees of the airline Aeroflot are stealing taps from washrooms at Moscow's main international airport, the official weekly *Nedelny* said.

Tough laws

Bonn (Reuters) - The West German Parliament has passed new laws making it illegal to publish or distribute information helpful to terrorists and broadening the legal definition of terrorist acts to include sabotage of state power and transport facilities.

Bomb defused

Almeria (Reuters) - Police said they defused a powerful bomb planted outside the offices of the local newspaper *Cronica* in the southern city of Almeria. There was no immediate explanation for the attack against the newspaper.

To meet Pope

Vatican City (AP) - The Pope will meet General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Polish leader, when he visits Italy next month at the invitation of the Prime Minister, Signor Bettino Craxi.

Cave deaths

Huelva (Reuters) - Three 10-year-old children were found dead in a cave near this southern Spanish city after playing truant from a school trip to a film festival. They appeared to have been suffocated by smoke from a fire they lit.

Epidemic aid

Lagos (Reuters) - Five American experts are due to arrive in Nigeria shortly to help doctors fight yellow fever epidemic which has killed at least 300 villagers.

Reform urged

Moscow (Reuters) - Soviet actors, playwrights and theatre directors have been told to break away from control by cultural bureaucrats and help Mr Mikhail Gorbachev in reforming society.

Death of Hong Kong governor

Whitehall loses its handover expert

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent, and Robert Grievess in Peking

The sudden death of Sir Edward Youde, Governor of Hong Kong, was seen as a great blow in Whitehall yesterday, depriving the Foreign Office of one of its foremost experts on the colony's transition to Chinese rule.

Sir Edward was at the forefront of efforts to dovetail British and Chinese proposals on Hong Kong's constitutional future. More than any other official he understood the policy known as "convergence", Whitehall's strategy for ensuring that progress towards representational government up to 1997 remains in step with Chinese plans after the British lease expires.

He had just conveyed the latest Whitehall suggestions to Mr Zhou Nan, China's Deputy Foreign Minister, when he died in Peking.

There has been growing concern that Sir Edward, aged 62, had been pushing himself too hard. Despite a heart-bypass operation before he took up his appointment in 1982, he maintained a hectic pace of shuttle diplomacy.

His death followed a schedule which would have punished many younger men. Last week he flew into London on Tuesday, held two meetings with Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, and two with junior ministers, and left again on Thursday.

Arriving back in Hong Kong on Friday, he had only a brief rest before beginning talks with senior Chinese officials in Peking on Monday.

Sir Edward had visited Britain in February, May, July and September, in addition to a North American tour that took him to Chicago, New York, San Francisco, Vancouver and Washington in July.

A man of immense energy, Sir Edward gave up part of his month's leave in July and August to put in time at the Foreign Office and the Hong Kong Government Office. The Queen's visit on October 21 added to his workload.

He played a key role in the negotiations that led to the signing of the 1984 Sino-British accord on the future of Hong Kong.

Business confidence in Hong Kong is not expected to suffer lasting harm from Sir Edward's death. Although stocks tumbled and the local currency fell in response to the news, a quick recovery was predicted.

The Chief Secretary, Sir David Akers-Jones, who was also in London last month and is highly informed on Whitehall thinking, took over as acting governor.

Lady Youde, who had been on a trip to the central city of Xian, arrived back in Peking yesterday. Messages of condolence were sent by Sir Geoffrey Howe, Mr W U Xueqin, the Chinese Foreign Minister, Mr Jipengxi, State Counsellor in charge of Hong Kong affairs, and Mr Zhou Nan, the Deputy Foreign Minister. Obituary, page 18

Spain and US feud over bases

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Senior Narcis Serra, the Spanish Defence Minister, has admitted for the first time that negotiations with the United States for a reduction of its military bases and troop strengths in this country, began last July, are going badly.

Government sources indicated yesterday that the latest round, held in Madrid at the beginning of the week, found the two sides' positions more opposed than ever.

Senior Serra, when he met Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, in Brussels after the Madrid round, indicated that Spain's position would remain "very firm".

The Spanish Parliament on Thursday approved a government Bill permitting the reinstatement of nine former junior army officers who had formed a Union of Military Democrats during the last years of the Franco era.



Señor Serra: admits talks in Madrid are going badly.

Israelis kill Palestinian boy in West Bank refugee camp

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

The local hospital telephoned to say that he had been brought in dead of gunshot wounds.

There is a standard procedure to be followed by any soldier who means to shoot to kill during West Bank demonstrations. Only an officer can give the order and then only if the target can be identified and if the men are in imminent danger. Asked how the patrol could have been in imminent danger if the boys were running away, the spokesman said the soldiers were not shooting to kill so the procedure did not apply.

A routine inquiry is to be held into this shooting, like all others involving the use of weapons in the occupied territories. There are likely to be three separate inquiries into what happened at Bir Zeit University on Thursday, when the two students died and 15 others were injured by gunshot or plastic bullets.

According to Major-General Ehud Barak, the army commander on the West Bank, fewer than five officers

were responsible for all the shooting at the university. He said they had "acted with the utmost restraint and did not shoot unless there was real danger... while making sure to restrain their soldiers from opening fire, they also came under hail of bottles and stones".

The university was closed yesterday and the nearby town of Ramallah was quiet. Most shops were closed but this is usual in this largely Muslim community on the Friday holy day.

The uneasy truce comes after a week of mounting tension in the West Bank. It began with demonstrations commemorating Palestine Partition Day, marking the anniversary of the 1947 United Nations vote to establish an independent Jewish state.

AMMAN: Jordan yesterday condemned the "tyrannical and harsh" Israeli action in which the two Palestinian students were killed at Bir Zeit University (Reuters reports).

Cavaco Silva wins budget debate

From Martha de la Cal, Lisbon

Portugal's Parliament has approved the 1987 budget presented by the minority Government of Senhor Cavaco Silva, the Prime Minister.

The budget was passed yesterday morning after a continuous session of 21 hours during which the Prime Minister accused the Opposition party of introducing un-

acceptable changes in the budget and of infringing on areas pertaining exclusively to his ministers.

He challenged the Communist Party to present a motion of censure against his Government in parliament "rather than deface Lisbon's walls with slogans".

The main point of contention during the last day of debate concerned a clause to provide large sums of money

to raise the salaries of university professors.

Though some of his own party backed the proposal, Senhor Silva vehemently opposed it saying that university professors would then make 22 per cent more than a government minister and 10 per cent more than the Prime Minister.

The final vote on the Budget was 98 in favour, 75 against and 37 abstentions.

Witch doctors summoned to help exorcise Aids

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Leaders of South Africa's witch doctor fraternity joined forces with conventional medicine here yesterday to contain the spread of the killer disease Aids, which so far has not been found in any black South African.

About 100 sangomas and inyanga, as witch doctors are known, attended a briefing on Aids (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) at the South African Institute for Medical Research, which is co-ordinating a campaign to educate the public about the ailment.

Witch-doctoring has become a well-organized profession, and many of the sangomas, men and women, wore sober Western dress, while others sported more gaudy traditional garb, from leopard skin headresses to coloured beads and feathers.

Last month various witch-doctor associations, representing some 50,000 sangomas,

came together to form the South African Traditional Healers' Council, whose president is Mr Lyneke Mshibi, a herbalist from Soweto.

"We are trying to get official recognition for our organization, and to get herbalism and traditional healing established as a recognized university degree course," Mr Mshibi, who looks more like a stockbroker than a witch doctor, said yesterday.

"Aids is a new disease for us," Mr Sam Malla, a herbalist from the Pretoria area, admitted as he arrived for the meeting. "I don't think it can be passed on by sex. It must come from mosquitoes, like malaria."

Later, after the briefing by Dr Ruben Sher, a member of a group of medical experts advising the Government on Aids, Mr Malla had revised his opinion. He now accepted that the disease was sexually transmitted.

A woman sangoma, Miss Thelma Sivela, from the

Alexandra township on Johannesburg's north-east outskirts, said: "The doctor showed us from slides how to recognize the symptoms of Aids and that you do not need to throw bones to do this."

Throwing bones - in fact, usually small shells - and observing the pattern they make when they fall is the main method used by witch doctors to divine the cause of trouble or illness and to forestall the future.

"I think we can educate people by telling them not to be prostitutes and to use condoms," said Miss Sivela, who was smartly dressed in Western style, except for a leopard skin ring on her hand.

Miss Sivela said she used to be a school teacher. Then one day she fell sick. Her doctor told her she had high blood pressure, but she also consulted a witch doctor who confirmed her own feeling that her ancestors were telling her to become a sangoma.

She took the witch doctor's

advice, and immediately the symptoms of her illness - headaches and sickness - disappeared, she said. She was then enrolled as a *swama*, an apprentice witch doctor.

Dr Sher said that many of the sangomas who attended yesterday's meeting probably still believed that witchcraft was the cause of Aids. But even if only 10 per cent had changed their views the meeting would have been of value.

"We want them to be able to recognize the symptoms of people suffering from the disease, so they can refer them to a hospital. More importantly, we want them to educate blacks on the need to avoid promiscuity," he said.

This could be an uphill battle. The purpose of such *swama* - traditional medicine connected from roots, herbs and even parts of animal and human bodies - is to increase sexual activity. Magazines aimed at black readers abound in advertisements for exotic aphrodisiacs.

Three American firms join Pretoria exodus

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg

Three more American corporations are to divest from South Africa: Revlon cosmetics, Honeywell electronics and computers, and Fluor, an engineering, construction and natural resources management company.

This brings to 64 the number of American corporate withdrawals from South Africa since January 1985. Of these, 19 have left their operations here more or less intact by selling out to the local management or selling their shares and assets to South African companies.

New York agency reports from Johannesburg that the Revlon board planned to sell its South African subsidiary, which has a manufacturing plant in some 350 people, as soon as possible and not later than the end of next year.

The reason for Revlon's pull-out was said to be "un-

certainty in the economic and political situation in South Africa, and the Government's lack of progress in dismantling apartheid". There was no immediate confirmation from Revlon here.

In a statement from its Minneapolis headquarters, Honeywell announced that it had sold its South African affiliate to the Murray and Roberts construction and engineering group for an undisclosed sum of money.

Honeywell has five offices here and 175 employees. Local sales represent less than one per cent of its worldwide revenue.

From its headquarters in California, Fluor Corp. yesterday announced that it was selling its South African operations to an independent trust. The local management and workforce would remain unchanged under the new ownership.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including various logos and names like 'BBC', 'KRY', 'Revlon', 'SINE JO', 'BARI', 'Colin', 'Claud', 'Sivela', 'Call'.

December 6-12

SATURDAY

A weekly guide to leisure, entertainment and the arts

A plane man's guide to the horse



**ON THIS DAY**  
NOVEMBER 24 1917

This operation was the breaching of the Hindenburg line by the 3rd Army on November 20. British tanks had been tried out at Arras in 1916, but this was the first mass attack, with more than 300 medium tanks. The impetus was later lost through heavy rain and the strength of the German counter-attack.

**GREAT BRITISH VICTORY.**  
BYNG STRIKES ON THE RIGHT.  
FIVE-MILE ADVANCE.  
HINDENBURG LINE BROKEN.  
A BATTLE OF TANKS.  
8,000 PRISONERS.

The outstanding feature of the main results, of course, been the capture of some 8,000 prisoners.

The story behind the story: The Times account of the battle, re-printed last month, which prompted Donald Marendaz to contact us. He is pictured in the cockpit of a Maurice Farman trainer in 1917 and at his Lincolnshire home this week

A survivor of the last era in which it was still possible to think of war as a tourney and its fighting men as knights has this week touched the elbow of *The Times* and wondered if he might just have a word.

Captain Donald Marendaz, a former pilot in the Royal Flying Corps, begged leave to add to our recent account of the famous battle of Cambrai in 1917 (reprinted in our "On This Day" column). As he was the only RFC flier to penetrate the mist that obscured the Masnières Bridge on the first day of the battle, his was a unique view, and there were just one or two points he thought he might add.

To the interests of historical accuracy it was a duty—and a personal delight—to comply. For what men like Capt Marendaz had done in the skies above France made them heroes to seven generations of schoolboys who carved their aircraft from

balsa, and glued inch-high busts of their idols into cockpits of replica Camels and Fokkers.

Even the realization in adulthood that First World War aces went ill-trained, cursing and terrified to appalling deaths (they had no parachutes yet many chose to jump rather than accept incineration in flaming aircraft) did not deflect the belief that it was above the mud of the trenches where chivalry in combat finally died; and where Biggles was born.

Not that Capt Marendaz, tiny, bespectacled, frail as a spout, looks oow like a Biggles. But he wore spectacles on that November day above Cambrai which, approaching his 90th birthday, he recalls with piercing clarity. Cambrai is famous for its first use of massed tanks to battle; it might have become notable, too, for an epic final disaster for cavalry, had Captain Marendaz not managed to pierce the fog which grounded or diverted every other air-

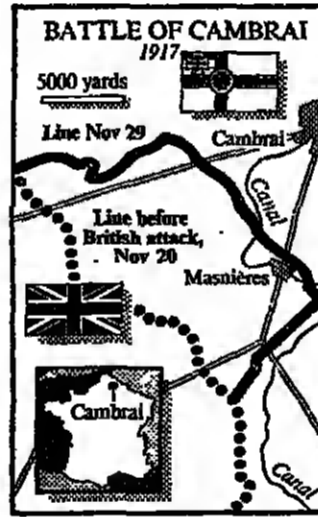
craft, Allied and German, on that first day.

His task when he took off at 7.15 am to begin the 45-minute climb to his Armstrong-Whitworth's operational height of 5,000 feet ("we were usually numb with cold by the time we got up") was to spot for the cavalry arm of the forces. Kept in idleness for most of the war, their chance had supposedly come. The horses were to lunge through the gap made by the tanks and outflank the Germans.

"Couldn't see a thing from up high," the captain said, "so came down to 150 feet. Bit close with all that rifle fire, but only way to get under the fog. Then I saw a British tank trying to creep over the bridge across the Canal at Masnières which the cavalry were to use. The bridge simply bent beneath its weight. Useless. I wound down my signal wire, and sent a message in Morse to tell them to stop... go back.

The captain, in tocs as clipped and precise as Morse himself, continued: "Just after that, my plane had all the air taken from its wings by a salvo of shells from the huge 12 inch guns they had brought up for the assault. Felt it go past. Plane started to side-slip down into the canal—about 70 feet wide and just about as deep, as I recall. No water—just a sort of huge concrete trench. We had practically stopped dead and were just falling out of the air."

So what did he do? "Didn't fight the slip... instead I increased it into a vertical bank. Then, using the rudder as an elevator and the elevators as the rudder, I climbed straight up out of the canal... roond and round like a corkscrew." Who ever had taught him a trick like that? "Taught? No one. In



**An historic battle in 1917 established the role of tanks. The official record makes no mention of a little spotter plane, but its pilot told Brian James the story of his own crucial role**

those days there wasn't any who knew. Only had 20 hours flying training in all... one hour on the machine I took into action. What you know about aircraft beyond the basic, you found out for yourself. Just pure reaction made me spin that plane up out of the canal."

Aod then? "Wasn't sure the cavalry had got the message, so I found a bit of a flat patch near a field station, put the plane down and went to find a telegraph. Odd thing—my observer was unconscious. Poor chap had fainted dead away when we started to slip. Thought he was dead, I suppose."

"Got back to the mess that night and heard that church bells were sounding all over Britain for the 'victory'. We knew better. The rains had started. The tanks were bogged down. In a week the Germans had taken back our gains, about 600 yards wide on a six-mile front. But at least we

hadn't lost the cavalry. They were dying to go... but if I hadn't seen that bridge go, they would have been slaughtered. So it's quite wrong what some historians have suggested, that the cavalry failed to carry out their assignment. Simply, they couldn't."

Any more adventures? Well, there was the time he missed a German aircraft going in the opposite direction in fog by about a yard. And put down beside a shellhole. The first man he saw when he climbed out was wearing "a very odd uniform. He just kept on going. I realized then he was probably a German. Thought I was probably behind their lines so started to make preparations to set fire to the aircraft. Then the Tormies turned up."

Then there was combat. "If a German got on your tail you were dead mutton. Taught myself to fly in a sort of three-dimensional zigzag. It was all very fraught with danger." But was he never frightened? "I think it is true to say not that I was scared of nothing, rather that I was scared of every-

thing." Well, a hero would say that, wouldn't he?

Captain Marendaz's flying career was almost ended before it had begun. On his first flight up to his enlistment, an over-confident instructor finished the initial lesson with a stunt, which put both men and the aircraft through the roof of a hangar. The instructor was packed off the trenches, and the squadron commander sat up half the night trying to ensure that the young Lt Marendaz had not lost his enthusiasm. No chance—young Donald had been obsessed with the air since he had watched the Hoo C.S. Rolls inflating his balloons and testing early aircraft opposite his school at Monmouth.

Invalided out with an 80 per cent pensioo ("which I gave up during the great depression: thought my country needed the money more than I"), Captain Marendaz went back to his other love, fast cars. He helped start the Alvis company. He designed and built the famous Marendaz Special, which, in the late Twenties, set three world 24-hour endurance records at Moothéry near Paris.

Then he designed another Marendaz sports car in which Stirling Moss's mother, Aileen, demolished all opposition among Continental rivals.

He set up, at his country's request, two clubs in the late 1930s to teach young men to fly. One became the most successful of all, turning out 495 pilots who were to become among the best of The Few. He designed the first trainer with a retractable undercarriage. What is more, the aircraft could "hover" (pre-

dating the Harrier by about 40 years). The same RAF official who rejected Whittle's jet engine turned down this Marendaz Special. Next he went to Germany and talked his way in to see how the Nazis were training their own pilots—this was just six weeks before the war began.

The flow of reminiscence was interrupted by the roar of an RAF jet about 500 feet overhead. "They like to let me know they are about," he smiled, adding that he didn't really envy those fliers. "They would fight a different sort of war. I think we were the last to have the opportunity to act in a chivalrous manner."

Jawing away an afternoon in the company of Captain D.M.K. Marendaz, ex-RFC, about dawn flights over the lines and travelling flat-out down the Brooklands straight, was to re-enter the boyhood world of W.E. Johns and Dornford Yates. Does anyone know... can one still get a Spad in kit form?

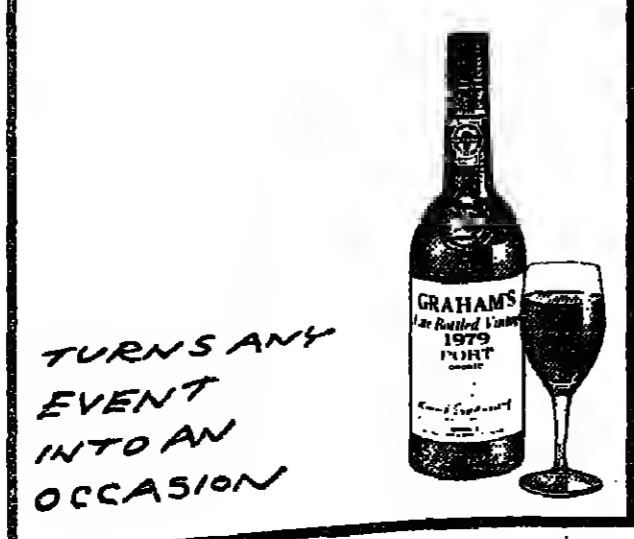
SATURDAY

**Classical records: pick of the year, Page 13**

Arts Diary	13	Opera	14
Bridge	13	Photography	14
Chess	13	Radio	14
Concerts	14	Review	13
Crossword	13	Rock & Jazz	14
Dance	14	Shopping	9
Debut	10	Television	14
Eating Out	11	Times Cook	11
Film	14	Travel	8
Galleries	14	TV & Radio	14
Gardening	10	TV films	14



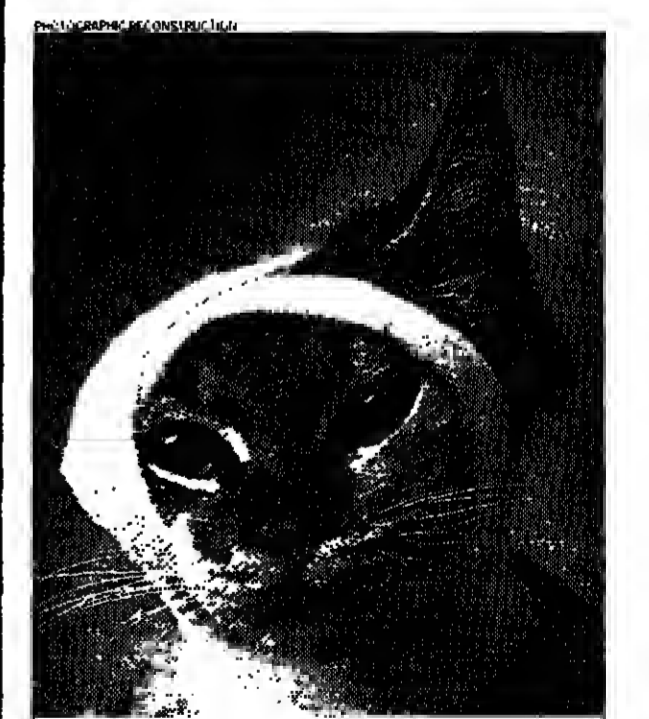
GRAHAM'S LATE BOTTLED VINTAGE



Turns any event into an occasion



A trench too far: a British tank halted on the German second front near Ribacourt during the offensive at Cambrai



LUCKY.

It looked like luck had run out for this poor fellow after he was savagely mauled by a dog. Especially as his owners couldn't afford the veterinary fees.

That's when Blue Cross came to the rescue.

We're a charity who cares for sick and injured animals either brought in from the street or whose owners can't meet the expense of private treatment.

However, we do depend entirely on your support to keep this much needed service going.

So please help by filling in the coupon below.

I'd like more information on Blue Cross  I'd like to make a donation

I enclose my cheque/postal order for £ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

To: Blue Cross Animals Hospital, 1 Hugh St., Victoria, London SW1V 1QR. BLUE CROSS

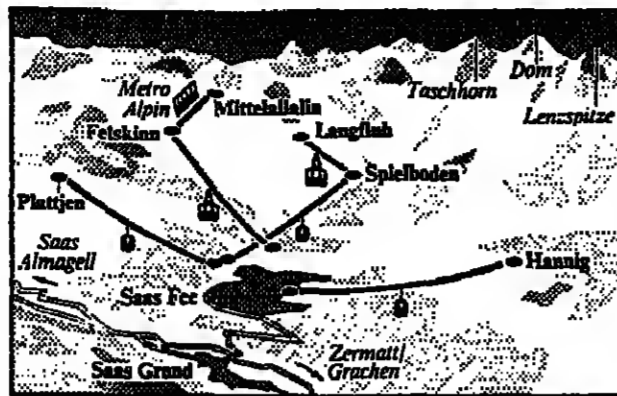




TRAVEL 2

Peace in the peaks for serious skiers

Richard Williams catches his breath at Saas Fee high in Switzerland



Lunch at Saas Fee

Apart from the exercise and the arousing, one good reason to go skiing is simply the pleasure of being in the mountains.

Forming an imposing western rim to the U-shaped valley in which Saas Fee sits, the tips of the Tschhorn, the Dom, the Lenzspitze and the Nadelhorn - all rising between 4,200m and 4,600m - turn a rosy pink in the first rays of the sun.

Such musings seem by no means out of place in a village whose pride in its past is on view at the museum of local history, housed in what for 250 years was the paragon.

The unusually well planned nursery slopes - extensive, unusually varied and conveniently located - help to make it an ideal place to have a first

go at skiing. They also get a full day in the sun, which is an important consideration for beginners, who may need all the encouragement they can get.

Three mountains beckon intermediate and advanced skiers. Neither Plattjen (2,570m) nor the prettier Hannig (2,350m) is likely to detain the expert for longer than it takes to admire the line of chamois scrambling across a nearby hill.

Runs of the spectacular Fee glacier. Intermediates will find enough in Saas Fee to keep them busy for a week; advanced skiers will probably run out of challenges in half that time.

TRAVEL NOTES

I visited Saas Fee as a guest of Thomas Cook, who offer seven days on half-board terms at the four-star Saaserhof (slightly gloomy rooms, nice bar, close to the lifts) from £233 to £379 according to season.

A Saas Fee's weekly ski pass costs about £85 this year; half a day with the ski school is about £7.

When it comes to picking personal planners, Lefax and Filofax are old timers and they're still coming up with new ideas to tempt money-hoarding shoppers.

With so many diaries on sale now, it would be perfectly feasible to choose them as Christmas presents for all one's friends and family, matching style to personality, without ever buying two the same.

So popular are these planners that even W.H. Smith has introduced a loose-leaf binder containing a diary, address book and reference sections.

OUTINGS

BRITISH PIGEON SOCIETY SHOW: Over 5,000 fancy pigeons on show. South Yorkshire Exhibition Centre, Doncaster Racecourse, Leger Way, Doncaster, South Yorkshire (0302 20068). Today 10am-5pm, tomorrow 10am-3.30pm. Adult £1, child 50p.

NATIONAL CAT CLUB SHOW: Over 1,800 cats and kittens in 70 different classes, 160 stalls plus a central information desk. Olympia, Hammerstein Road, London W14 (01-603 334). Today 10.30am-5.30pm. Adult £2, child £1.

BEAMISH OPEN AIR MUSEUM: Provides a rewarding outing even in winter with its 1920s High Street, complete with tramcar, shops of the period, pub and park. Beamish North of England Open Air Museum, Stanley, County Durham (0207 231811). Tues-Sun 10am-5pm. Last admission 4pm. Adult £1.50, child £1.

Judy Froshaug

SHOPPING

Dear (and cheap) diary

There's a diary on sale for every age, interest, hobby, job and pocket, as Nicole Swengley reveals

My grandmother always referred to her diary by name. "I'll put it to my Collins," she'd say. In those days, of course, a diary was a simple memorandum, produced by a specialist publisher, with pages crisply blank of all but date and perhaps a stray proverb lurking in the space marked "Sunday".

These days they're not quite so straightforward. Diaries come in all shapes, sizes, colours and styles. Far from being an agenda for one's own personal planning, some are crammed with such a barrage of information, trivial or relevant, that it's hard to find space to scribble.

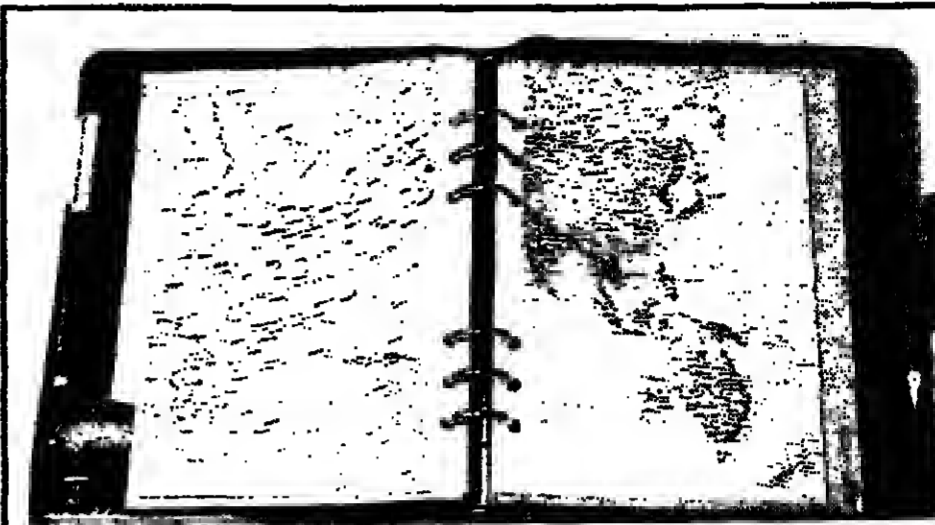
When it comes to picking personal planners, Lefax and Filofax are old timers and they're still coming up with new ideas to tempt money-hoarding shoppers.

So popular are these planners that even W.H. Smith has introduced a loose-leaf binder containing a diary, address book and reference sections. The black plastic cover somehow lacks a certain snob-appeal but it costs a competitive £12.99.

Far grander are the desk-top executive planners like the leather-bound loose-leaf desk diary/address book lined in moire, £59, from Eximious, or the vast loose-leaf Business Time/System, £185.60 from Harrods, with its separate sections for activities, year and monthly plans, data bank, telephones and addresses - in fact, anything you could possibly need to organize yourself into the next century, let alone next year.

A large number of 1987 pocket diaries are designer-influenced with tactile covers self-consciously breaking out of the classic leather tradition. Next's first diary, £2.99, has a strobale, smooth black cover and contains information relevant to shopping in Next stores.

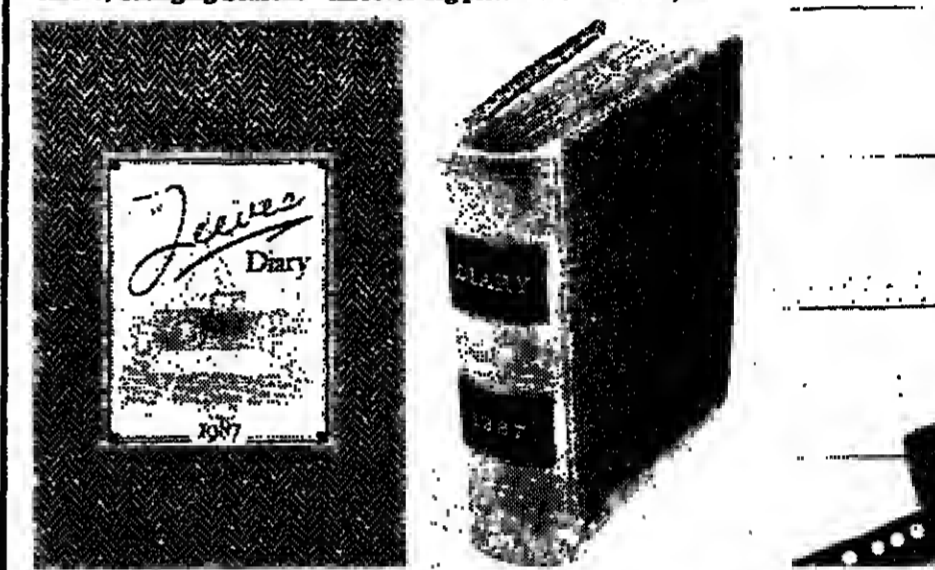
Many of our larger museums and galleries produce diaries linked to their own displays, such as the British Museum, National Gallery, Tate Gallery and the Victoria and Albert Museum. The National Trust and the



Above, Business Time/System organizer, £185.60; right, from the Esquire Diary, £14.95



Above, Changing Seasons with revolving pictures for children, £4.95



Above left, Jeeves Diary, £9.95; centre, Royal Court, £110; above right, Yes Prime Minister, £4.95

National Trust for Scotland likewise sell engagement diaries illustrated with photographs of their properties.

Nicely produced children's diaries are particularly hard to track down. Exceptions include the World Wildlife Diary, £4.25 from W.H. Smith, which is sold in aid of the World Wildlife Fund and has appealing animal photography; the Pink Panther Diary, £3.50 from stationers, with a cartoon strip of the hero (sadly printed in monochrome) along the top of each page; and an appointment calendar called "Changing Seasons", £4.95 from Liberty, with old-fashioned revolving pictures by Ernest Nister.

Influenced perhaps by book publishing successes, there are some marvellous large format hardback diaries catering for all tastes and inclinations. The Esquire Diary, £14.95 from leading stationers, comes with a splendid red, black and gold

cover and is liberally sprinkled with cartoons and illustrations from the 1937 issues of Esquire magazine, while the Wisden Cricketers' Diary, £9.95 plus £1.25 from Save the Children (tel 01-730 5400), inevitably has a green fabric cover, lists test records and depicts top-notch cricketers with details of their achievements.

The Jeeves Diary, £9.95 from the Sloane Square branch of W.H. Smith, prefaced by Reginald Jeeves himself, assures us that "in my retirement I have kept abreast of the changes which have occurred across the social scene". Some things never change, thank goodness. The diary's opening pages offer a Directory of Essential Information. Turn to "Socks" and you'll read "Jeeves logged my purple socks out of the drawer as if he were a vegetarian fishing a caterpillar out of his salad."

Prime Minister Diary, £4.95 from Scribblers, marked "Strictly Confidential" with margin memos by the Secretary of the Cabinet, Sir Humphrey Appleby KCB, on Wednesday April 1 he remarks: "As a matter of principle, ministers should never know more than they need to know. Just like secret agents. They may be captured and tortured by the BBC, for example".

Even more over-the-top is Debbert's Country Sportsman's Diary, £13 from the Sloane Square branch of W.H. Smith, which actually carries advertisements for guns and Burberry raincoats as well as jolly little editorials discussing salmon and hoo pheasants.

But, for confidences of a more personal nature, Smythson's Bond Street publish an old-fashioned looking tome, £110, with marbled inside covers, calf exterior and gold-edged pages.

Follow in the tracks of Christopher Columbus on our Caribbean Cruise. Swan Hellenic... Departing on 1st January 1987... Price starts from £2995 a head...

Centre international de Glion. CH-1823 Glion-Montreux (Switzerland). Tel. 010-41-21-634841. HOTEL TRADE & TOURISM HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT.

WE'RE GIVING THEM AWAY!! XMAS SPECIALS - FRANCE (22nd Dec) Les Arcs 2000 £129 BB (air) Les Coches/La Plagne just £139 (air) XMAS SPECIALS - AUSTRIA (22nd Dec) Bad Kleinkirchheim from £149 HB. St Oswald a mere £125! Kids £115 (air) JANUARY BARGAINS. Les Coches/La Plagne and Les Arcs 2000 just £99! departing 12, 19 & 26 Jan. (air)

ZERMATT Hotel Julien. January ski-holiday, 3-24 January 87 (from Saturday to Saturday) Double room £210 for 7 nights per person in 16.

Continental Motoring Breaks. Choice of over 150 hotels within easy driving distance of Cologne and Hologwe. With your tickets, you'll get a free tape cassette or information pack for the area.

TAORMINA THIS WINTER FROM £139. One of the world's most beautiful resorts, located in the British Isles for 15 years, when not only you enjoy the mild winter climate at reasonable prices, but also share the warmth of Sicily's art and architectural treasures.

The perfect Christmas gift... two nights at The Ritz. Imagine receiving The Ritz as a gift on Christmas morning. Or more precisely a Ritz gift voucher for two people to stay two nights in a twin or double-bedded room.

Amsterdam Poster. For a free copy of an attractive poster depicting the famous canals of Amsterdam together with our brochure on individual inclusive holidays to this beautiful city, write to: Time Off Ltd, 12 Chester Close, London SW1R 7BQ.

National Garden Gift Tokens. make the perfect present for every gardener and plant lover. They offer such freedom of choice - and solve so many gift dilemmas. They can be used to buy everything for the garden at 1,500 Garden Shops and Centres - and at Interflora florists nationwide.

THE RITZ PICCADILY - LONDON. The Ritz. The Perfect Christmas gift.

ABLE LABELS. NAME, ADDRESS, TEL. No. or any words you need up to 8 Lines. 1000 Self Adhesive Labels 18 x 40mm. Black on White. £3.25. White on White. £4.00.

National Garden Gift Tokens. make the perfect present for every gardener and plant lover. They offer such freedom of choice - and solve so many gift dilemmas. They can be used to buy everything for the garden at 1,500 Garden Shops and Centres - and at Interflora florists nationwide.

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THE TIMES GUERNSEY CARDIGAN

Specially selected for Times readers, this versatile Guernsey cardigan is both hard wearing and attractive. Made in 100% pure new wool, the cardigan incorporates those features of the "guernsey" design that make it immediately identifiable - ribbed sleeve insets and two small slit openings in the hem. To add to the continuity of the design, the turtle neck and patch pockets also have the same ribbed pattern. The strength and quality of the wool ensure that the wearer is warm whilst looking stylish. The cardigan is made in Guernsey for Times readers and comes in a choice of oatmeal or grey. Suitable for both men and women. We advise ordering one size larger than normal if a loose fit is required. Sizes: 36", 38", 40", 42", 44" @£44.95 each.

# Christmas Gift Guide

**FOR EVERYONE**

**SOS Talcum**

SOS Talcum is the only talcum powder that is safe for babies and children. It is made from natural talc and is free from any harmful chemicals. It is the perfect talcum powder for everyone.

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**AFGHAN SLIPPER SOCKS** £4.95

These socks are made from the finest Afghan wool. They are soft, warm and comfortable. They are the perfect gift for anyone who loves their feet.

**'TEDDY BEARS'**

This is a new range of teddy bears. They are made from soft, plush material. They are the perfect gift for children and adults alike.

**HAND EMBROIDERED SILK PICTURES**

These pictures are hand embroidered by skilled artists. They are beautiful and unique. They are the perfect gift for anyone who loves art.

**ROONEY TALK**

Rooney Talk is a collection of books about the life of a boxer. They are written by a former boxer and are full of interesting facts and stories.

**Parasonic**

Parasonic offers a wide range of electronic equipment. They have everything you need for your home or office.

**UNIROSE**

Unirose offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**LOOK CLOSER!**

Look Closer offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**ONLY ONE IN EUROPE.**

Only One in Europe offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**ANGLO-NORMAN ARMY TWO**

Anglo-Norman Army Two offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**FOR SOMEONE WHO HAS EVERYTHING...**

For Someone Who Has Everything offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**MEMSAHIB RESTAURANT**

Memsahib Restaurant offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**Waddingtons**

Waddingtons offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**PERSONALISED PLAYING CARDS**

Personalised Playing Cards offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS**

Christmas Cards offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**THE U.K.'S LARGEST RANGE OF CHARITY CHRISTMAS CARDS**

The U.K.'s Largest Range of Charity Christmas Cards offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**REDWINGS HORSE SANCTUARY**

Redwings Horse Sanctuary offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**FOR HER**

For Her offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**FLOWERS A SIMPLE GIFT**

Flowers A Simple Gift offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**CATHY**

Cathy offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**SHEEPSKIN CAR SEAT COVERS AND FLOOR RUGS**

Sheepskin Car Seat Covers and Floor Rugs offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**FOR HIM**

For Him offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**FRESH DAFFODILS FOR CHRISTMAS**

Fresh Daffodils for Christmas offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**DINING OUT**

Dining Out offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**FOR CHILDREN**

For Children offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**MUSICAL TABLES**

Musical Tables offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**CHRISTMAS FARE**

Christmas Fare offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**SCOTTISH SMOKE SALMON PRIME SIDES**

Scottish Smoke Salmon Prime Sides offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**SMOKED SALMON**

Smoked Salmon offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**ENTERTAINMENTS**

Entertainments offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**EXHIBITIONS**

Exhibitions offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**OPERA & BALLET**

Opera & Ballet offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**THEATRES**

Theatres offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**HARVEY WALLBANGERS**

Harvey Wallbangers offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**ME AND MY GIRL**

Me and My Girl offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**THE LACE PLATE**

The Lace Plate offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**CHRISTMAS FARE**

Christmas Fare offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**EL VINO CO LTD**

El Vino Co Ltd offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**WEST COUNTRY TREASURE**

West Country Treasure offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**INTERBOTTLE**

Interbottle offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**SMOKED SALMON**

Smoked Salmon offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**COURSES**

Courses offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

**OVERSEAS PROPERTY TO LET**

Overseas Property to Let offers a wide range of gifts. They have everything you need for your loved ones.

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## DRINK Classy claret on the corner

In an age when the average corner off-licence looks more like a run down beer, cigarette and spirit emporium than a wine merchant, the 76 Davisons shops shine out like beacons in discerning drinkers search of fine, low priced wine.

Family firm established in 1875, is appealingly modest about Davisons' success. "The firm was founded by my grandfather, built up by my father and I hope to continue the tradition for my son Michael to carry on," he stresses. It is surprising that a company which manages to sell classy claret and burgundy at seductively low prices managed to remain independent, despite, I suspect, some ardent wooing from other wine concerns.

Davisons' policy succeeds, where other merchants fail, simply because they buy large quantities of young fine wine from the en primeur market, salting it away in their cellars to mature for seven years or more and only then selling it. As a result their customers have access to a wide range of fine, mature Bordeaux and Burgundy.

The company also runs a small public house business, but their latest, and from the wine drinker's viewpoint most interesting, move is the Master Cellar Wine Warehouse built on an old Sainsbury site in front of their GHQ at 7 Aberdeen Road, Croydon, Surrey. Here the complete range of their wines - 400 in all - are on view, besides an additional range of limited fine wine specials that are not available in sufficient quantities in merit inclusion on their ordinary list. Other branches that offer this extended range include the shop at 674 Fulham Road, London SW6, plus country outposts such as Tenterden, Kent, and Battle, Sussex.

At just £7.95 a bottle Domaine Morey's red '82 Chassagne-Montrachet is also a real snip and delicious with turkey. Considerably cheaper, but only a shade less impressive, is the splendid '82 Côte de Beaune Villages from Royer-Lebon (£5.99).

The star buy of the claret catalogue is the '78 Château Roquetaillée LA Grange from the Graves (£4.85). It provides the ideal foil to any festive fare accompanied by a fruit stuffing or sauce. Claret aficionados with money to spare might like to indulge in the '75 Bataille on Christmas Day (£10.45). This wine has now matured into a delightful rich warm flavour with bags of fruity flavour. Long live the independent wine merchant!

For Christmas wines Jane MacQuitty

## IN THE GARDEN

Winter takes a tighter grip in December, and it is almost impossible to picture our gardens green and flowering. Fortunately the seed companies' catalogues are at hand to prompt our imagination.

The main problem with ordering seeds at this time of year is getting carried away in a creative vision which turns out to be severely impractical. One way of keeping plans within reason is to have a map of your garden and to mark out exact positions for the plants you have in mind - sensible people do it on graph paper and make copies so they can compare year with year, but others - like me - manage with pencil sketches.

Remember to keep plans of previous years or you'll get vegetable rotations wrong. Also, make notes of where precious bulbs and perennials are situated, or you risk digging them up, or planting things on top of each other. If you know the date of your holidays, keep this in mind so you don't leave the task of repelling blackly on broad beans to your neighbours or miss the best of a strictly seasonal flower.

A wise precaution is to make a copy of your seed order just in case of mistakes. A few years ago I placed my usual order for courgettes (zucchini) and having raised and planted them in the normal way discovered the leaves beginning to blotch and mottle most alarmingly. Whittening of the leaves can be a symptom of magnesium deficiency - only my plants were white in the wrong places. The plants with their ivory veining grew larger and blotchier, and it dawned on me that they looked neither vine-climber nor mineral-deficient. Only when their flowers gave way not to the standard green, proto-courgettes but to strange bright buttermilk-yellow shapes did I realize that the seeds had been mispacked and that these bright bananas were a new golden coloured courgette.

Luckily this kind of mistake is comparatively rare as seed firms know their reputation depends on correct labelling, but when it does happen gardeners can lose a whole crop. Seed purchases come under the Sale of Goods Act so if there is any degree of loss gardeners should ask for complete compensation from the seed company.

## Winter dreams

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## IDEAL GIFTS

All POST PAID TO ANY U.K. ADDRESS. For Christmas Gifts, please order by December 15th.

Everything scented with the fragrance of the garden. The gift of a scented candle. A scented candle in a glass holder. A scented candle in a glass holder. A scented candle in a glass holder.

## BONSAI SALE

Now you can enjoy the beauty of bonsai in your home. We have a wide range of bonsai trees for sale. They are perfect for indoor growing and make a beautiful addition to any home.

## BONUS SURPRISE

With every purchase of £10 or more you will receive a bonus surprise. It could be anything from a pair of gloves to a pair of shoes. So shop now and see what you can win.

## THE INCREDIBLE SEED CATALOGUE

Major gardening reference book of plants in full colour. 228 pages, 1500 illustrations, nearly 4000 varieties. Fully illustrated and how to plant. Name, seasonal and flowering times. Includes a wide range of plants. Includes a wide range of plants. Includes a wide range of plants.



THE TIMES COOK

Reign of the deer

Venison is back in the shops, says Shona Crawford Poole, and worth eating

Four years ago to the week this column noted: "Roe deer in the form of best venison is another of those home-grown delicacies which are becoming hard to find in British shops because the French are prepared to pay higher prices for them." In the interval, increasing supplies of farmed venison have changed the picture completely.

The red deer, as portrayed in *The Monarch of the Glen*, is the largest of our native species and the type most usually farmed. But whereas Landseer's noble stag of the 12-point antlers and many summers might have been as tough as boots, most farmed deer are slaughtered when one and a half to two and a half years old.

Farmed venison is sold in southern England through 46 branches of Waitrose. In the Midlands, the North, Scotland, Wales and the South West the farms themselves may be the most convenient source of supply. For a list of members of the British Deer Farmers Association write to Alao Drescher, Hollym, Withernsea, Hull, Humberside enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Because it is leaner and denser than more familiar meats, a little thought is needed about how to cook it. As a rule, fast, fierce cooking producing a well browned exterior and rare interior suits those who enjoy their meat pink. Gentle cooking with added fat and moisture produces the best results for those who prefer their venison more thoroughly done.

Beef producers will not thank me for saying so, but the taste of fresh venison can best be described as superb. The gamey flavour that many of us associate with venison comes from longer hanging than most of today's deer farmers find their customers want. Farmers or game dealers may be prepared to hang the meat longer to order for those who prefer a gamier flavour. If the meat is a supermarket cut, turning it for a day or two in a red wine



Diana Landseer

- Deerburgers deluxe Serves six 250ml (8oz) red wine 1 medium onion, finely chopped 1 clove garlic, finely chopped 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme or rosemary 1 tablespoon lemon juice 2 tablespoons butter 2 tablespoons chopped parsley 2 slices good white bread 680g (1 1/2 lb) finely minced venison Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Combine the wine, onion, garlic and thyme or rosemary in a small pan, bring to boil and simmer until the liquid is reduced by half. Stir in the lemon juice, butter and parsley and leave to cool.

Soak the bread in this mixture, then beat to a more or less uniform texture. Knead the wine and bread mixture into the venison, and add salt and pepper to taste. Form the meat into six patties and grill or fry them. Seal them on both sides on a high heat, then reduce the heat and continue cooking until done.

Put all the ingredients in a small pan and bring to the boil. Simmer for 10 minutes then cool.

- Cooked marinade Makes about 300ml (1/2 pint) 1/2 bottle of red wine 1 shallot, sliced 1 bay leaf, crumbled 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme 10 juniper berries, bruised 10 peppercorns, bruised Silver of fresh or dried orange zest

Put the venison in a lidded container, pour over the marinade, cover and refrigerate for two or three days, turning the venison two or three times a day. Dry the meat well before browning it.

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This quantity is enough for up to about 680g (1 1/2 lb) of meat, whether in one piece, or in noisettes, or cut for casseroles.

marinade will emphasize its gaminess.

Finely minced venison - Waitrose sell it for £1.79 a pound - makes a hamburger that is really worth eating. Choose the first recipe if a burger that is well browned outside and pink in the middle is what you fancy. For well-cooked burgers, it is well worth the trouble of making the second, still-easy recipe, an adaptation of Angus Cameron's Mooseburger Deluxe from the *LL Bean Game And Fish Cookbook*, the American game cook's bible.

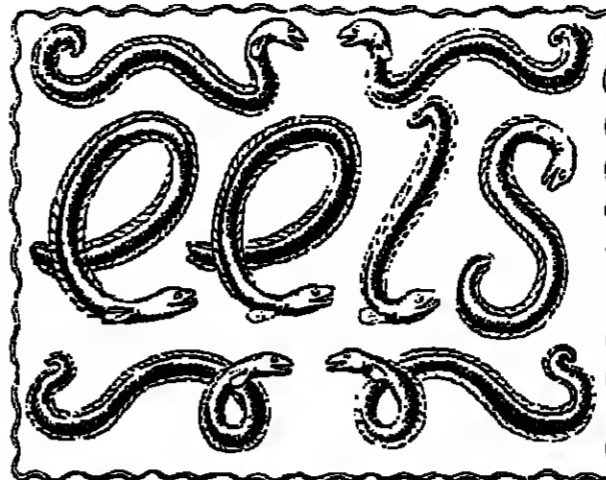
- Venisonburgers Serves four 680g-900g (1 1/2-2lb) finely minced venison Salt Freshly ground black pepper 1-2 tablespoons olive oil or clarified butter

Season and form the burgers immediately before cooking them so that the salt will not have time to draw moisture from the meat. Choose a one-pan frying pan and heat it well.

Mix the minced venison with salt and pepper to taste and fry a test-teaspoonful of the mixture to check the seasoning. Divide the mixture into eight equal portions. Oil or butter your hands and form them into fairly flat patties. Cook the venisonburgers as quickly as possible without burning them so that the outside is well browned and the inside pink and tender.

Serve venisonburgers with freshly made English mustard and a well-dressed salad of raw or cooked (but not vinegared) beetroot, grated finely and dressed with olive oil, fresh orange juice and thyme.

EATING OUT



Slippery customers

My father was of that generation of boys, now largely disappeared, who built tree houses, set snares, baked hedgehogs in clay. For that generation, posching was OK, and eels were fair game, with the captives from the eel trap cooked any way but by the British method: jellied eels and boiled eels with the sauce called "liquor" are foul.

My father's trap, at the bottom of his garden, was at the confluence of two of the great chalk streams of southern England. We used to do the eels, plumper than those available commercially, in veal stock and white wine (French) or, because they taste themselves, grilled with bay leaves (Italian).

Needless to say it is impossible to find an Italian restaurant serving this commonplace dish. But some French places, especially those run by English enthusiasts for provincial cooking, make it a point of honour to celebrate the traditions of their (adoptive) cuisine.

Café Pelican makes a stab at a sort of Burgundian red wine stew, which gets more marks for aspiration than for achievement. The eels themselves, pretty slim creatures on the day, don't help. Further, the practice of thickening the sauce with flour and oil - offering with acidic cocktail onions are ill-advised. There was a nice dinky heart-shaped crouton though. And there was nothing wrong with a 1985 Brouilly, nor with a fish soup that was, unusually, not overpowered by conger eel (distant relation).

The Pelican is decoratively unchanged since it opened three years ago, and if you have a meal rather than a snack - the bread is good and so, too, is the coffee - you'll pay between £40 and £50 for two.

Kitchen Yakitori, which doubtless sounds, and certainly looks like a take-away, is a wedge-shaped Japanese café, with melancholic piped music, in a maze of alleys off Bond Street. Eels here are plump. Kitchen Yakitori obtains good produce and cooks it properly. By the standards of London Japanese places it's informal - no kimonos, no cooking at the table - and austere, with rough-cast walls, tunnel-vaulted basement.

It's probably the only place in Britain which serves eel livers, done here in a strong sweetish sauce which, it is presumably, meant to lessen

their gamey taste, and sprinkled with sesame seeds. The effect is outlandish, though part of the outlandishness is probably occasioned by the very act of having tried them.

Est. meat, long filets, are braised with soy and something, and are thoroughly delicious. So is the sashimi - raw salmon, octopus, cuttlefish and tuna (which fish is actually done as sushi, that is, wrapped in seaweed). If you also eat tempura, deep fried and heavily battered fish 'n' veg, and drink beer and sake, you'll pay £55, though at lunch-time the set menu will put you in at half that.

Whether the Human eel at Kym's properly corresponds to eel in Human is a question I can't answer. Like many "new wave" Chinese places, Kym's offers an eclectic menu of anything but Cantonese food, and the designer here has packed so much design into a tiny space that people, eaters, tend in ruin the effect. The service is unfortunately chummy, and the Human eel was not "crispy" as advertised, but was jolly good nonetheless: off the bone and prepared with garlic, ginger and lemon, maybe. It would have been even better had one not had to contend with the noise of David Essex singing numbers from *Evita*. Of the other dishes we tried, cold jelly fish with sesame oil and chilli and fried Peking dumplings were fine. With a bottle of Beaujolais Nouveau - on the table when you arrive - we paid £32.

Jonathan Meades

Café Pelican, 45 St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-379 0309/0259). Open Mon to Sat 11-12.30am, Sun 11am-midnight.

Kitchen Yakitori, 12 Larcashire Court off Bond Street, London W1 (01-629 8984). Open 12 noon-2.30pm and 6-9.30pm Mon to Fri, 12 noon-2.30pm Sat. Closed Sat night and Sun.

Kym's, 70 Wilton Road, London SW1 (01-828 8931). Open Mon to Sat 12 noon-3pm and 6.30-11.30pm. Closed Sun.

Del Colle wine advertisement with logo and text.

Lambrusco wine advertisement with logo and text.

FOR SOMETHING VERY SPECIAL THIS CHRISTMAS

From A MAGNUM OF 1949 CH LAFITTE-ROTHSCHILD £450 To HOUSE CLARET £3.25 La Reserve 56 Walton Street London SW3 589 2020 La Reserve 47 Kendal Street London W2 402 6920

Ferreira: (n) An ancient tradition to celebrate the end of an excellent meal.

Ferreira: (n) A term used to describe a splendid wine cellar.

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Advertisement for BANDA AZUL RIOJA wine featuring a cartoon character and product image.

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Advertisement for Baron Philippe de Rothschild wine featuring a scene of a vineyard and a bottle of wine.

Advertisement for Del Colle table wines featuring various wine labels like Valpolicella, Frascati, Verduzzo, Lambrusco Rosso, and Lambrusco Bianco.

Large advertisement for fur jackets with the text 'FREE 2 FUR JACKETS ON EVERY SALE OVER £499 on presentation of this advertisement' and 'U.K.'s LARGEST EVER FUR SALE'.

Advertisement for Rembrandt Hotel featuring a map and text: 'THIS SUNDAY ONLY 7th NOVEMBER 9.30am to 6.00pm REMBRANDT HOTEL As probably the oldest established fur company in the U.K., we have the experience, knowledge and direct bulk buying capacity to offer you HUGE SAVINGS on our staggering range of beautifully designed quality furs in the latest styles.' Includes contact information for the State Room at 11 Thurloe Place SW7.

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FFTS SALE

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THE ARTS

# Passionate involvement with music

TELEVISION

"I'm trying to get out of him the clinching detail. The thing that makes it impossible for the reader to disbelieve," the writer James Fenton explained in last night's *Arena: Cambodia Witness* (BBC2). The "him" in question was Someth May, son of a Cambodian army doctor and survivor of the Khmer Rouge regime, who with Fenton's help has written his autobiography. The programme was an attempt to expose the mechanics of this collaboration, which it succeeded in doing at the expense of leaving you cold.

The vivid qualities of the book did not survive the journey to the screen. Dullied by layers of explanation and narration, we might at times have been watching an excavation of a shopping precinct for all one cared about whether May's father was wearing a "sad" or a "solemn" or a "grave" face. It took John Fingleton's footage of skulls stacked on shelves like cans of baked beans to keep the horror of this story in focus.

Sitting in Fenton's cosy study, together they would plan each sentence, each word. Fenton appeared to be seeing the events clearly as if he had a film rolling inside his head but we had to be satisfied with his quest for precise times, for the numbers involved.

At one point Someth May recalled how he was caught stealing sweet cassava from the fields and was taken by guards at dawn to dig his own grave. Fenton realized that moments such as this were too hard for May to remember clearly, but he attempted to dredge up as much as possible. With an analyst's probing, he painstakingly pulled May back into his memories but on this occasion the clinching detail did not emerge. Neither did we learn how May escaped that grave.

No danger of too much talk and too little action in *The Colby's* (BBC1), which has returned for a new season. Sounding like a collection of brand names for the London Rnhher Company, Bliss, Miles, Sable and the gang, have caused the family lawyer to comment: "You know, it's amazing how the rich live." And indeed it is.

While Sable is trying to salvage her marriage by committing her husband to jail, Fallon has discovered that her unborn baby might belong to the wrong husband. As if this weren't enough, a recent American poll has decreed that *Dynasty* glitz is no longer in favour. All the girls have had to trade in their diamonds for plain gold chains, and their sequins for simple silk jersey.

**Alexandra Shulman**

Tonight Richard Armstrong enters the pit for the last time as musical director of the Welsh National Opera. The piece is *Götterdämmerung*, to Bristol, and that might appear as grandiose a way as any to depart, although the last work in the *Ring* cycle does not exactly leave much time - or energy - for a sumptuous farewell dinner afterwards.

Armstrong in any case has set his face against "trumpets and gales" or even a goodbye in Cardiff, which has been home base for the WNO since its birth.

He sees *Götterdämmerung* not so much as an apotheosis but a "company piece." "You can't be musical director at a house for a long time, as I have, without putting on *The Ring*. It's dominated my professional life for five years: drawing board, casting, preparation, delivery, standing back and assessing where we've gone wrong. It wobbled a bit at the start, but it's milder. Indeed I was in despair after *Rheingold* and remember Reggie Goodall coming up to me and saying 'Why ever did you start with that one, dear? By far the most difficult.' He was right of course. But we got better and we brought our *Ring* in Covent Garden.

"And I really do believe that it is a company piece in the same way that an old-fashioned German house would always keep a *Ring* cast within their roster of singers. That's why I've quite deliberately chosen *Götterdämmerung* as the farewell. I don't believe in being fêted: I'd just like to be remembered for what has

**Richard Armstrong (right) has been Music Director of the Welsh National Opera for 13 years. Tonight he conducts the company for the last time. Interview by John Higgins**



been done and let it be seen." After tonight Richard Armstrong will not himself be seen with the WNO until September 1988, when he resumes the partnership with Peter Stein, so spectacularly established earlier this year in *Otello*, with Verdi's *Falstaff*. When Sir Charles Mackerras takes over at the turn of the year Armstrong will not be an old boy haunting the *alma mater*.

He came to the WNO in 1968, when he was 26, as an assistant musical director to James Lockhart. Experience, such as it was, had been gathered as a répétiteur at Covent Garden. It might have been meagre, but it was of high quality.

"I began to learn the job of conducting through observing Solti and Ted Dones. But there were three other major influences at Covent Garden: working with Giulini on *Traviata* was my first experience of Verdi and gave me the kind of teaching money cannot buy; the same applied to Klemperer's *Fidelio* and Kubelick's *Janáček*."

There is not much point in being an assistant musical director unless there are operas to conduct. Lockhart

thrust his deputy into the pit swiftly with a *Figaro* on a winter's day at the Barbican. Rhyll (now demolished, but no conclusions need be drawn from that). There were no rehearsals, but the cast did include Tom Allen and Josephine Barrow. Seventeen years later Richard Armstrong does not regard himself very highly as a Mozart conductor - "I'm passionate about him, but I don't think I do him particularly well so far" - and *Don Giovanni* is notable

absence among the 46 operas he has conducted for the WNO.

Armstrong's champion in those early days was the late Alfred Francis, a figure who has never been given his full due and whose influence and diplomacy, before his premature resignation, quenched much of the feuding that went on in the WNO. Francis had learnt some of his skills from Jack Hylton and he had an impresario's nose. He persuaded the board to appoint

feigned horror and said the MD of an opera company had been seen to have the best. I took his point."

So much so that a few years later when Arthur Davies had just joined the company and was sleeping in a converted van, Armstrong gently reprimanded him, saying "I don't think we can have a principal tenor living in a caravanette," and helped provide accommodation. The story is told in *Welsh National Opera* by Richard Fawkes (Julia Macrae Books, £14.95).

Armstrong's reputation grew on early Verdi and on the 20th-century repertoire. Words like "vehement... uninhibited... fiery" were handed out to describe his conducting. None could be ascribed to the private Armstrong, who remains an ironic, puckish figure. "No, personally I'm not vehement - rather quiet actually. I accept that there can be two Richard Armstrongs: one in the pit and one out of it. But the reason for that is a passionate involvement in music. The only point really in being a music director is to be able to champion and schedule the works you truly believe in."

He adds, with puckish irony, that as soon as he announced his resignation, one or two operas which he had resolutely rejected started to appear on the future planning lists. It is easy to note that the WNO opened with *Cav & Pag* in 1946 and has never resaged that double bill. French opera too has not played a major part in the repertoire.

During the 13 years at the

helm, with Brian McMaster as general administrator for 10 of them - "I look after the musical side, which still everything else which allows time for his hobby of producer spotting" - Armstrong has only had one out and out flop, the 1981 *Forza* directed by Joachim Herz. "I walked into the pit on opening night knowing that it was not going to work and saying to myself, 'God, there are another 24 performances to go.' I have regrets too about *Masnadieri*, which I think would have been a hundred per cent better if I had stuck to my original intention of performing it in Italian."

The lengthy credit side runs through Britten, Janáček, Tippett, Strauss - when was *Elektra* ever taken on a provincial tour before the WNO? - and of course Verdi himself. A generation of Welsh singers, including Helen Field, Anne Evans, Dennis O'Neill and Arthur Davies, have been developed by Armstrong.

Apart from three performances of *Falstaff* at Monte Carlo at the beginning of next year he will now take an eight-month break from opera, resuming with that Stein *Otello* at the Monnaie in Brussels. "For some time I have been a man with a mission and I have always believed that I would know instinctively when to leave. That moment has come. I go not with a feeling of relief or release, just a great deal of regret." The WNO will lose that rarity in the opera world of the 1980s, the resident musical director.

## A promising affair

THEATRE

I Ought To Be In Pictures Offstage Downstairs

Although Neil Siman is an unwaveringly honest writer as ever struck it rich on Broadway, he comes pretty close to selling out in this 1980 comedy, now receiving its British premiere at 37 Chalk Farm Road.

It is a play about self-confidence which continually betrays its own uncertainty of purpose. The setting is a modest Californian house where Herb, a screenwriter, has taken refuge after three failed marriages and a downward career in the studios.

One fine morning a girl hitch-hiker turns up and introduces herself as Libby, the daughter he abandoned in Brooklyn 16 years before. It is a promising situation. Father and daughter have no memory of each other, and their relationship is free to develop in any direction. But this blank slate seems to affect Simon like the sheet of white paper to Herb's typewriter. At first, he seems to be writing a comedy about a limpidly confident innocent and a man demoralized by experience. Meanwhile, however, Siman has been shifting his ground. Libby, it seems, is also an ace cook, home decorator and car mechanic. From this point, the comedy of ambition switches to domestic lines.

Like its irresolute hero, the play dithers. Siman is too

honest to declare a happy family reunion. But he leaves that possibility hovering in the air after two hours of establishing it as the one thing that cannot happen.

In Manning Redwood's shambling but alert performance, Herb appears as the author's critical alter ego. He is a funny, wounded and believable figure. So, too, is Barbara Rosenblatt as the stochically torch-carrying Steffy, Herb's mistress. The soft spot in the play and the cause of its downward spiral is Libby. Barbara Barnes, whose timing matches her perfect physical casting, certainly has a go. But neither she nor her director, Robert Gillespie, can disguise the fact that Libby is a doll that has wandered into human company.

**Irving Wardle**

DANCE

Swan Lake Palace, Manchester

It should be a matter of much pride for Manchester, as it undoubtedly is to Robert de Warren, just 10 years after he became artistic director of Northern Ballet Theatre, that the much strengthened company is able to present its new production of *Swan Lake* to sold-out houses all this week at the Palace, where they can perform to as many people in a day as they used once to attract in a whole week.

The production, as Judith Cruickshank reported from its Glydebourne premiere in October, is a thoroughly respectable one. Although André Prokofyev's staging does not offer any entirely new ideas, he has combined much modern thinking on the work into a logical mainstream version with the tragedy seen as Siegfried's dream of unattainable love.

His choreography makes the most of the company's dancers, and there are some notably attractive details, especially to his use of the Mazurka and the Spanish dance to carry the story forward strongly in Act III. The designs, by de Warren, complement his concept handsomely, making a particularly spectacular effect in the ballroom scene and providing a credible context for the action all through.

For three of this week's performances Rudolf Nureyev, who has recently accepted the title of Artist Laureate in recognition of his support for the company, is appearing as Siegfried, bringing with him one of his most gifted young protégés from the Paris Opéra. Thursday night was the first time Elisabeth Maurin had danced the ballerina role, but I think nobody would have guessed that.

If the role's technical demands held any difficulties for her, she did not let them show. As the heroine Odette, she danced with a quiet, soft gravity. For her wicked double, Odile, Maurin found a

## Quiet gravity



glittering mask of seductiveness, and she sailed through the 32 fouettés as smoothly as if she had been doing them all her life, with singles and doubles thrown in as a bonus.

Maurin's appearance - she is blonde and below average height - is not what one first associates with so romantic a role, but she has a quality that carries the day: a gift for catching the meaning of each movement, the purpose of each solo or duet in the ballet's dramatic context, and conveying that to the audience through the quality of her dancing.

I was glad to be able to see a matinee with two of the company's own principals in the leading roles: Sylvie Guillaumin and Michel Messier danced with the style and confidence one expects from alumni of the Paris Opéra. Both concentrate on the sentiment of the roles and might with advantage go for a little more punch, but I have to say that I have seen less good performances from casts with both the Royal Ballet's companies.

**John Percival**

## An auction where you can even afford the time.

If the prices don't put some auctions out of your reach, the viewing and sale times certainly will. Sotheby's Conduit Street Sales are devised to fit in with your lifestyle. So there are evening and Sunday viewings, with the sale on the following Monday evening.

You'll find nearly complete room settings of furniture, rugs, ceramics, silver and works of art. As few pieces, if any, need restoration, they are ready to take home and enjoy. Delivery is inexpensive and easily arranged on the spot.

Visa or Access Cards are accepted. And as lots start from as little as £200, time won't be the only thing you can afford.



One of a pair of 19th century paintings, height watered 60cm on paper 32 x 25cm. Estimate: £100-500.

**VIEWING TIMES**  
Sunday 7th December... 10.00 am-4.00 pm  
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## Spring Awakening Young Vic Studio

The Inner Circle Theatre Company's shrewd choice for its first London production gives opportunity to a cast of 17. Usually it is left to the subsidised theatre to people the stage so generously, but in Wedekind's blistering play the mainly youngish cast are in turn schoolchildren, grape pickers, reformatory boys and, screwing up their faces under crumpled mortar boards, a clutch of grotesquely crows-like schoolmasters.

The play is not only a young man's savagely angry work, but grimly funny, which probably made it seem, like *Ghosts*, an even more revoltingly criminal work. Banned for public performance in Britain until the 1960s, its argument for sexual candour has again become relevant, although now we must be honest concerning the risks of death rather than the facts of life.

Wedekind's heroes are the children of a German provincial town growing up in the oppressive atmosphere of the 1890s. The longings of puberty stir within them but every attempt to find out from their elders what is happening is condemned as moral deficiency.

The desperate Moritz opts out of the struggle and shoots

himself. The 14-year-old Wendla (Sally Cookson, at first too knowing), finding herself with child, dies under the abortionist hired by her cowardly mother (Miranda Forbes). The only survivor is the rebel Melchior (Tim Whitmall), who is despatched to a reformatory, where he will learn to do what is right and not what is interesting."

The play is constructed in short scenes, some lyrical, some satirical, all displaying Wedekind's psychological acuity, years ahead of his time. Margaret Gordon's ably considered production places them against an effectively simple setting by Helen Tulley of neat wall-planking with panels that revolve to disclose cottage window, school shelf or the entrance to a hay-loft. A master stroke of economical effect is achieved when the staff-room table, with its green baize table, is used to become a grave in the grass.

As Moritz, Steven Currie - whose drama features resemble those of the young Kafka - gives a performance of remarkable pent-up tension. Words burst from him in little jerks, like a catalogue of sins he cannot believe he knows about. Judi Stewart and Cal McCrystal, as variously tormented children also inspire confidence in the company's continued future.

**Jeremy Kingston**

## Nationalistic fanfares

CONCERT

LPO/Bychkov Festival Hall

If grand orchestral gestures and portentous stimuli are all a composer needs to write a great symphony, Andrzej Panufnik's *Sinfonia Sacra* would be up there with the best of them. Composed in 1963 to celebrate 1,000 years of Polish Christianity, it thrusts the listener into a picturesque and (for Polish émigrés, presumably) nostalgic aural landscape.

There are plenty of vivid orchestral effects: trumpeters fanfaring from the four corners of the orchestra; a rhythmically-aggressive central section (a kind of musical synopsis of all the battles ever fought on Polish soil); an old Polish hymn played eerily on violin harmonics, like some ghostly pilgrim band wandering around in a fog; and finally an ear-splitting blaze of nationalist fervour.

At this point one feels that if the four horsemen of the Apocalypse had been available, Panufnik might have had them doubling the trombones. Yet somehow the work falls flat, perhaps because Panufnik's musical language - diatonic, pleasant but unambitious - is too urbane to produce the epic rhetoric needed for the subjects.

The London Philharmonic Orchestra under Semyon Bychkov's direction gave it an appropriately larger-than-life performance. Bychkov's strength does seem to be his hyper-awareness of dynamic possibility, while his major weakness is a casualness about ensemble, as a lurid account of Mendelssohn's "Scottish" Symphony later confirmed: the finale perhaps more evocative of Hollywood kitsch than Hollywood kits, but splendidly spirited nevertheless.

It was, then, pleasantly surprising that in Mozart's B flat Piano Concerto, K595, the Russian happily scaled down the orchestral sound to match Radu Lupu's delicately nuanced solo playing. Consequently, the interplay between pianist and LPO winds in the Larghetto had a chamber-like magic.

**Richard Morrison**

... one of the best comedies of the year.  
Simon Banner - THE TIMES

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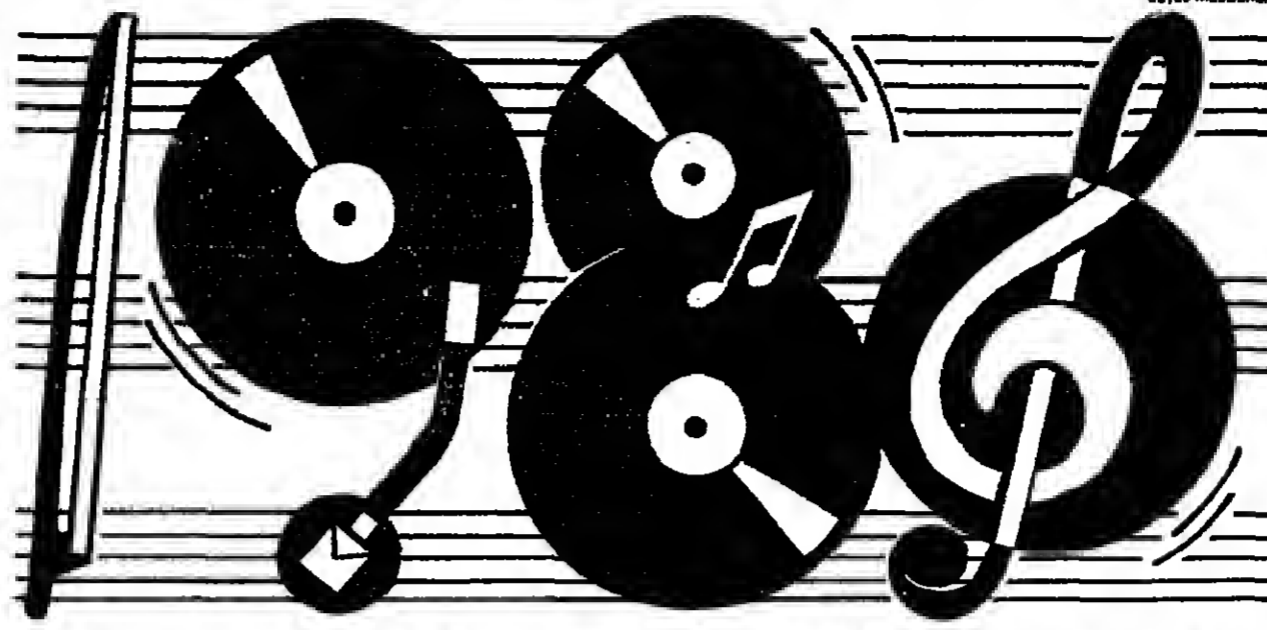
Saint and Beasties

ROCK RECORDS

Bob Geldof: Deep In The Heart of Nowhere (Mercury BOB LP1)... The Beastie Boys: Licensed to Ill (Def Jam CBS 4500621)...

David Sinclair

Classical pick of the year



Chausson: Le roi Artus (Erato/Conifer NUM 75271, 3 LPs, also CD, cassette)...

The great operatic discovery of the year for me has been Le roi Artus, whose first recording less than a year ago is dangerously Wagnerian but also highly personal...

right. However, two of the best releases I have heard this year come from pianists playing "live" concerts, and that is a very different matter...

Verdi: Otello Domingo, Riccardo Muti (EMI CDS 7 47450 8)...

The recital that gave most pleasure was the three-record Fritz Wunderlich set which collects together arias from opera and operetta...

with the same composer's Les Espaces du Sonnet. Lutoslawski's review of the symphonic process has much in common with Sibelius's or Maxwell Davies's...

Finally, the year's most desirable (and unusual) seasonal recording must be that made by the prolific Tallis Scholars on their own Gimell label...

As I have yet to hear the rival Philips recording conducted by the composer, my 20th-century release of the year has to be Esa-Pekka Salonen's account of Lutoslawski's Third Symphony...

THE TIMES ARTS DIARY

Low grade visions

When asked by the new BBC chairman, Marmaduke Hussey, whom he would recommend as director-general, Ludovic Kennedy suggested Michael Grade...

Secret mission

Who will steer Covent Garden through its next turbulent phase? The appointment of a chairman, I gather, has already been made...



Denis Forman, chairman of Granada. But I understand that coming up first were Jeremy Isaacs, head of Channel 4, and Sir John Sainsbury of the supermarket chain...

Gothic horror

Expect another lively meeting of the British Film Institute's governors over the recently ended London Film Festival...

Smart money

Furious letters have been filling the Bookshelf this week about the Smarties Awards, the UK's most valuable prize for children's books...

Hip hooray for a jazz age

PAPERBACKS The Hip: Hipsters, Jazz and the Beat Generation by Roy Carr, Brian Case, and Fred Dollar (Faber and Faber, £6.95)

the years between Pearl Harbor and the Profumo Affair, an era whose agonies and ecstasies are now bathed in a romantic Technicolor glow...

existentialist manifesto. Book designers do not generally get much credit, but in this instance Andy Martin would have had his name up with those of the authors...

night in the English Midlands. "In among the unseeded typewriters, chromehead wristwatches and radios, is a silver trumpet in a battered blue case..."

BRIDGE

Houdini plays a double

Those who believe that the modern game is bedevilled by a plethora of artificial bids and the loss of the double as a punitive weapon...

Chess puzzle diagram with numbers 1-12 and letters W, N, E, S. Includes text: (1) Showing a weak hand with either diamonds or clubs...

CHESS

War of attrition

Anatoly Karpov's result at the great Tilburg Tournament was among his least impressive, but the former champion did at least gain the consolation of defeating his old rival, Viktor Korchnoi...

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1125

Chessboard diagram for Concise Crossword No 1125. Includes text: Prizes of the New Collins Thesaurus will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, December 11...

War of attrition

Chess puzzle diagram with numbers 1-12 and letters W, N, E, S. Includes text: Anatoly Karpov's result at the great Tilburg Tournament was among his least impressive...

THE WEEK AHEAD



**THEATRE**  
**TAKING GUARD:** Brian Cox plays the cricket-loving squire Sir Timothy Bellboys in the Royal Shakespeare Company revival of John Whiting's *A Penny For A Song*...



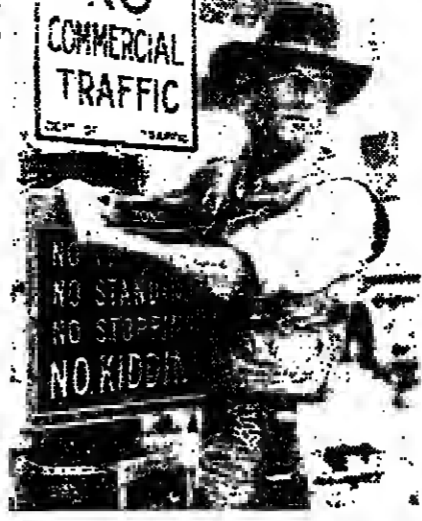
**GALLERIES**  
**POPPIE DOSE:** David Hockney is home from Los Angeles to show new prints. The boy wonder has put aside his camera and discovered the Xerox machine...



**OPERA**  
**CAROL SERVICE:** Carol Vaness sings three roles in the revival of Handel's *Sansone*. As well as Dalila she will be heard as The Philistine Woman and The Israelite Woman...



**RADIO**  
**LETHAL DOSE:** Hawley Harvey Crippen was a meek little American doctor who poisoned his wife and eloped with his young mistress...



**FILMS**  
**CROC OF GOLD:** Paul Hogan, irreverent star of Australian TV and Foster's lager ads, reaches the big screen in *Crocodile Dundee*...



**TELEVISION**  
**GOLDEN OLDIE:** Wendy Hiller plays a widow enjoying a new lease of life at 85 in a three-part adaptation of Vita Seckville-West's novel *All Passion Spent*...

**ROCK**  
**BIG COUNTRY:** Have they been a bit over-exposed this year? Don't mention the bagpipes. Tonight, Whitey Bay Ice Pink (091-252 6240)...



**Billy Ocean**, the expatriate Briton who enjoyed a run of hits in the Seventies, starts his first British tour tonight with his American band and special guest Ruby Turner...

**THE POGUES:** The first drunken shenanigans of 1986 for the rude boys of punk folk. Tomorrow, The Studio, Bristol (0272 276133)...

**KID ORY CENTENARY:** Five-a-side, the unusual British band featuring the trombonists Roy Williams, Pete Strange, Roy Crimmins...

**BUDDY TATE/AL GREY:** A fine combination of forthright ex-Basiletes, both Tate's tenor and Grey's trombone being steeped in the blues...

**COURTNEY PINE:** Would you believe that his first LP has outsold Miles Davis's *Tutu* by three to one?

**ALFREDO "CHOCOLATO" ARMENTEROS:** When he was the chief soloist with Machito's band, one wondered how this great Cuban trumpeter would sound in a more intimate setting...

**HOWARD... A NEW BREED OF HERO (PG):** The Marvel Comics character Howard the Duck stars in an erratic live-action extravaganza from George Lucas...

**LINK (15):** Chimpanzees steal all the scenes in this perverse horror film from Richard Franklin, director of *Psycho II*...

**ROUND MIDNIGHT (15):** Bertrand Tavernier's loving homage to jazz musicians, set in Paris during the 1950s...

**SHOAH (PG):** Claude Lanzmann's meticulous and chilling historical documentary, over nine hours long...

**ROYAL OPERA HOUSE:** Gala performance of *Die Zauberflöte* on Tues at 7pm, and Siegfried Jerusalem and Karita Mattila as Tamino and Pamina...

**ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA:** The seasonal return of *Die Fledermaus* (Mon and Tues, 7.30pm)...

**SADLER'S WELLS:** Monotti has come up with a new opera - a little 75th-birthday celebration piece called *The Boy Who Grew Up Too Fast*...

**LONDON'S BURNING:** A *Hill Street Blues* of the London Fire Brigade, inspired by the Tottenham riots...

**A PEOPLE'S WAR:** Vera Lynn, Geri and Daisy, swing bands and GI brides in the history of Britain at war...

**TO US A CHILD:** Marking the 40th anniversary of the United Nations Children's Fund, Denis Tuohy's film is a stark reminder that even in the 1980s 15 million children die each year...

**SCARPE ON SCARPE:** Arena documentary in which cartoonist Gerald Scarpe reflects on a life spent wielding a vitriolic pen...

**CANDIDA:** Frank Hauser directs Maureen O'Brien, Rupert Graves, David Rintoul and Nicholas Amer in a new production of the George Bernard Shaw "romance with a social and political edge"...

**DORY PREVIN SINGING SONGS AND TELLING TALES:** Her first UK show for ten years includes ten new songs and a selection of past work...

**HERESIES:** Premiere production of a play by Deborah Levy, developed through workshops with director Susan Todd...

**"HEY! LUCIANI!":** The life, times and purportedly mysterious death of Pope John Paul I is the subject of this first stage play of Mark E Smith...

**THE HOBBIT:** Rony Robinson and Graham Watkins have adapted the book by J.R.R. Tolkien and Malcolm Dixon has the title role...

**THE MAGISTRATE:** Nigel Hawthorne a charming hero in Pinero's imperishable comedy. Performances on Friday and Dec 13, the last until Jan. National (01-928 2252)...

**THE FAIR MAID OF THE WEST:** High jinks on the high seas in mainly successful revival of Heywood's comedy. The Swan Theatre itself will worth a visit...

**THE LAST WALTZ:** Colla Irmie end Alexandra Pigg show how best to survive as an army wife in Gillian Richmond's shrewd play. Soho Poly (01-636 9050)...

**MIR AND MRS NOBODY:** The home life of the Footers, ingeniously staged and not too cosy too often. Judi Dench and Michael Williams a beguiling couple. Garrick (01-379 6107)...

**THE WOMEN:** How to lose and win your man in New York, 1936. Pretty superficial but star-studded and engaging at times. Old Vic (01-928 7616)...

**DANS LES LAISONS DANGEREUSES:** Bloodchilling account of the destruction of innocence under the *ancien régime*. Tickets like gold dust. Ambassadors (01-836 8111)...

**OUT OF THE MAZE:** Unusual documentary from Northern Ireland which reveals that behind the barbed wire of the Maze Prison there is many a hardened terrorist taking A levels and studying for the Open University...

**ROYAL BALLET:** This week's only performance is a triple bill (Thurs) of *Young Apollo*, *Beauty and the Beast* and *Baiser de la Reine*. Covent Garden (01-240 1066)...

**LONDON CONTEMPORARY DANCE THEATRE:** Season at Sadler's Wells (01-278 8916) ends today; so do tours by Birmingham Hippodrome (021 622 7846) and Ballet Rambert at the New Theatre, Newcastle...

**BLAIR/YMSO:** James Blair conducts the Young Musicians' Symphony Orchestra in Edgar's *Falstaff*, Walton's Cello Concerto (soloist, Peter Dixon) and Britten's *Gloriana* Suite. St John's, Smith Square, London SW1 (01-222 1081). Today, 7.30pm.

**EAST OF VIENNA:** For the third of their "East of Vienna" series the Nash Ensemble plays Mozart's Clarinet Trio and Shostakovich's Piano Quintet, and Felicity Lott sings songs by Rachmaninov and Shostakovich's *Seven Poems of Alexander Blok*. Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, London W1 (01-935 2141). Today, 7.30pm.

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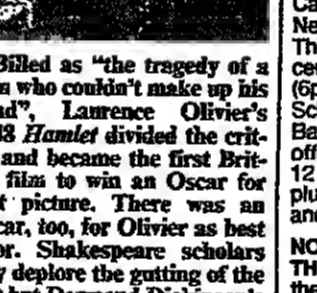
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**THE REBEL (1960):** Uneven but engaging cinema debut for Tony Hancock as a London office worker escaping to the Paris Left Bank. BBC2, today, 3.15-4.55pm.

**L'AMOUR A MORT (1984)/LAST YEAR IN MARIENBAD (1959):** Alain Resnais double bill comprising his latest film and his most famous. Plenty for the eyes but even more for the mind. BBC2, today, 9.50pm-1am.



**OUT OF THE MAZE:** Unusual documentary from Northern Ireland which reveals that behind the barbed wire of the Maze Prison there is many a hardened terrorist taking A levels and studying for the Open University. Radio 4, tomorrow, 10.15-11pm.

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**PHOTOGRAPHY**  
**TAKING THE STAGE:** Vivid and vigorous photographs of actors, directors and their attendants by British photographer John Haynes. National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (01-828 2033)...

**THE BRITONS:** Huge colour Polaroid group portraits which, for American photographer Neal Slavin, portray the British. Spectacular, bold and arrogant but appealing nonetheless. Still's Gallery, 105 High Street, Edinburgh (031 557 1140)...

**PRINTED LIGHT:** 200 remarkable photographs from the early days. Featuring Fox, Talbot, Hill and Adamson and including many fine portraits, landscapes and cityscapes - all of which have a distinct freshness of vision now associated with the birth of the medium. Science Museum, South Kensington, London SW7 (01-589 3456)...

**SONIA BOYCE:** Paintings and drawings describing the social and domestic experiences of black people living in Britain by a young artist with a rising reputation. Air Gallery, 6 Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (01-278 7751). From Wed her work will feature in "A Cabinet of Drawings", a mixed show of artists' notes in Plans & Glimpses, 30 Davies Street, London W1 (01-493 2488)...

**JOHN STRICKLAND GOODALL:** Detailed watercolours of festive Victorian Christmases by this popular illustrator of children's books. Christopher Wood Gallery, 15 Motcombe Street, London SW1 (01-235 9141). From Mon.

**TURN OF THE YEAR:** Mixed show, including Jacqueline Morreau, Sue Dunley and Larry Wakefield to celebrate the first year of a suburban gallery dedicated to quality rather than fashion. Art Space Gallery, 84 St Peter's Street, London N1 (01-359 7002). From Mon.

**JAMES FITTON (1899-1982):** A retrospective of the Oldham-born painter and Royal Academician who, in his lesser known commercial work, surprisingly kept pace with avant-garde Russian and German art. Durleigh Picture Gallery, College Road, London SE21 (01-683 5254)...

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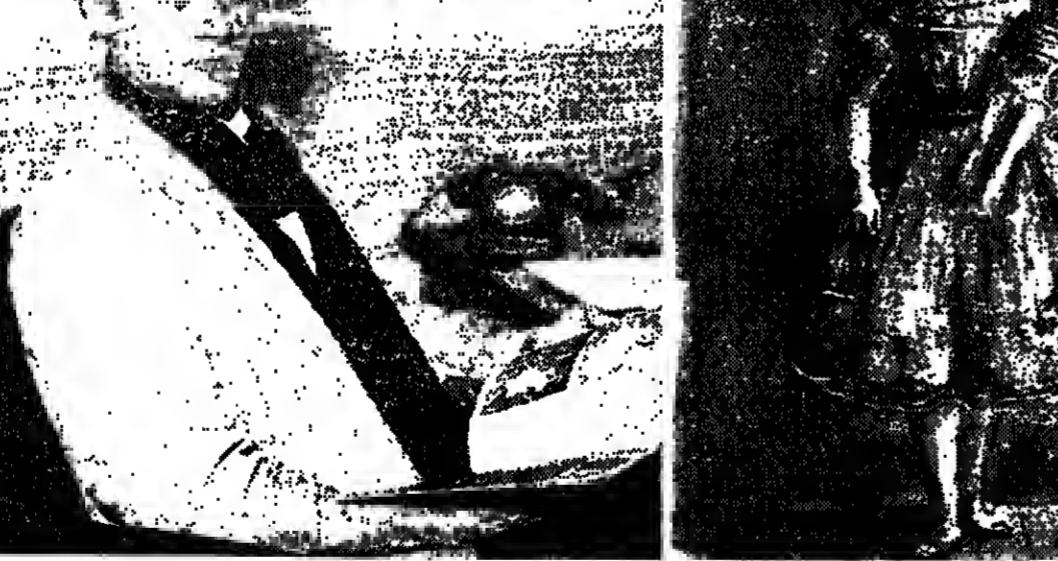
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New life for an old favourite: Peter Schaufuss, left, and a design by David Walker for the Nutcracker

Leading the Festival dance

Untrammelled by the metropolitan prejudices of other theatre award schemes, the Manchester Evening News has just presented its Dance Award for 1986 to Peter Schaufuss because of his achievement in raising the standards of Lido Festival Ballet's touring programme and for his personal contribution as a dancer to the popularity of traditional ballet. It is just over two years since Schaufuss took charge of Festival Ballet at a time when its finances and its morale were both depressed. To take on that challenge he accepted a drop in his own income, giving up many of the lucrative guest engagements that he had worked harder than ever: planning repertory and casting, playing a part in publicity and fund-raising, making the artistic decisions that cannot be delegated, and also dancing and rehearsing. He has certainly achieved results. His first move was to bring in dancers from abroad to set new standards, especially among the men. But at the same time he gave chances to young dancers within the company in whom he saw promise. He has not been afraid to back his hunch about young talent (the most striking example in his 18-year-old ballerina Trinidad Sevillano) but has also found ways to use the gifts and experience of old-timers such as Alexander Grant. Sevillano, Grant and Schaufuss himself are all among the casts of the new production of *The Nutcracker* which opens this week at Plymouth and will play at the Festival Hall from Boxing Day. *The Nutcracker* has been a breadwinner for Festival Ballet from the start. Extracts from it were included in the company's first tour in 1950, and successive stagings have brought packed houses ever since for weeks on end in London and on tour. Schaufuss's production sticks closely enough to the original story to have snowflakes and a Christmas tree in its advertisements, and for him to have invited Dame Alicia Markova (Festival Ballet's first ballerina) to teach the dancers the famous *pas de deux* which she learnt in the early 1930s. But Schaufuss has some surprises up his sleeve too, as indicated by the fact that the of characters list unprecedentedly includes the names of Tchaikovsky himself (doubling as the mysterious Dr Drosselmeyer), his sister Alexandra Doldoroff and his niece Tetyana. Up to four or five different dancers are announced for each of the leading roles during the ballet's opening run, but Schaufuss has broken away from one Festival Ballet tradition this Christmas by not inviting any guest stars. It is not that he has anything against guests (Nureyev, for instance, has been dancing on the company's autumn tour), but he obviously feels that his revitalized company has earned the chance to take the initial credits for itself. John Percival Festival Ballet's *Nutcracker* is at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth this week from Wednesday (matinees Friday and Saturday); then at the Royal Festival Hall from December 28, twice daily until January 3, and evenings plus Saturday matinees until January 17.

**BOOKINGS**  
**FIRST CHANCE**  
**CHRISTMAS BACH FESTIVAL:** Concerts in six London churches by the Monteverdi Choir and English Baroque Soloists, with John Eliot Gardiner. Works include motets, Brandenburg Concerti and Christmas Oratorios. Ticketmaster (01-379 6433). Dec 15-Jan 16.

**NEW YEAR AT THE BARBICAN:** Booking for two Whinness evenings (Dec 31 and Jan 1), Furtisio 87 Concert on New Year's Day, and Verdi Gala Night, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-638 8891; 01-628 8795).

**ROYAL OPERA:** Postal booking for January performances of *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *Der Rosenkavalier* and new production of *Otello*. Personal/telephone booking from Jan 2. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, PO Box 6, London WC2 (01-240 1066/1911).

**WIGMORE CHRISTMAS CRACKER:** Christmas feast of carols and song, including New Year's Eve concert by the Songmaker's Almanac, and New Year's Day concert with the King's Consort. Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, London W1 (01-935 2141).

**LAST CHANCE**  
**CAV AND PAG:** Last performance Fri of Ian Judge production of double bill with Malcolm Rivers, Helen Field and Christopher Booth-Jones. ENO, London Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-636 3161; 01-240 5258 credit cards).

**TURNER PRIZE:** Display of work shortlisted for greatest contribution to British art in last 12 months, including winners Gilbert and George; also Victor Burgin, Derek Jarman, and Bill Woodrow. Ends tomorrow. Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (01-821 1313).

**JEAN COCTEAU:** Exhibition on Cocteau to accompany production of *The Infernal Machine* with exhibits from the Bureau des Expositions in Paris. Ends tomorrow. Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, London W6 (01-741 2311).

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# SPORTS DIARY

Frances Edmonds in Australia

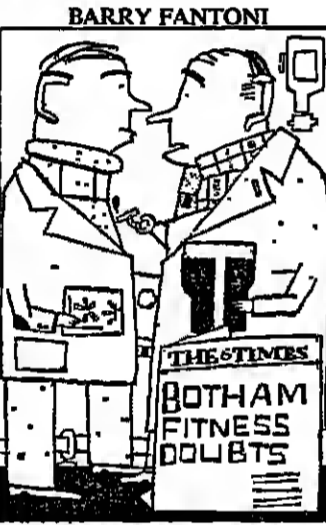
## Taken on the trot

Received wisdom has it that Australian trotting races are irredeemably rigged. Don't believe it. On the first evening of the Perth Test, members of the England cricket team were invited to the Western Australian Trotting Association's meeting, and my card was marked by a sponsor putatively in the know: I won not one depreciated Australian dollar.

Indeed, I would have done better to follow my original instinct and stick to cricket-related horses: It's Simply Magic (David Gower, in his first innings century); Careless Hands (Boon, Border, Ritchie et al during England's first innings); King Command (England manager Peter Lush); Astonishment (general sensarinn in hitherto critical British press corps); Lord Cognac (Phil Edmonds, whose celebrated connection with Hine keeps the team's spirits up); Bonnie Skipper (Mike Gattling); Super Force (Jan Botham); Little Napoleon (disciplinarian assistant manager Micki Stewart). Two Thousand Extra (man of the match award worth £2,000 to Chris Broad); Fiery Black (Barbadian-born Gladstone Small); General Alert (situation in the Australian Cricket Board). And Another Dustbin (final resting place of the Australian selectors' current policy).

**Snook-cocking**

Lindsay Lamb, currently holidaying in Sydney, was suitably distraught when husband Allan was dismissed without scoring during the first innings at Perth. As consolation she sent him a present which he wore on his nose while fielding and which was occasionally borrowed by Ian Botham, also a first innings non-scorer, as new Australian batsmen walked to the crease. Sadly, Allan Border proved unassessable. The present was a duck's bill.



Barry Fantoni

And his wrist's still sore from signing all those contracts and endorsements

**From the top**

After putting in an appearance at the Perth Test - and apparently bringing the home team some much needed luck - Boh Hawke named the Prime Minister's XI for a one-day fixture against England at Canberra on December 23. No doubt appraised of superstars' sudden, inexplicable attacks of back pain and hamstring trouble before previous fixtures so close to Christmas, Hawke was at pains to ensure a top-flight England lineup. He congratulated David Gower on his magnificent innings and expressed a strong desire to see a repeat performance in Canberra. "And if you don't appear", he told Ian Botham, "you might have serious difficulty getting a work permit for Queensland next year."

**Take guard**

Melbourne's Menzies at Rialto Hotel, where the England cricket team are now staying, has ten floors of iron balustraded corridors looking down on to a cobble courtyard - very much like the prison in the TV series *Porridge*. Could it have been chosen to enable Mickey Stewart to lock the lads in at night?

**Must try**

England's appalling show against New South Wales in Newcastle after the resounding Brisbane Test victory has reinforced the Oz theory that they are engaged in a deliberate play in state matches to confuse and confound the enemy. Rousing rhetoric from acting captain John Emburey met with little enthusiasm in the dressing rooms. Indeed, it would not be going too far to say he was almost totally ignored. For this touring team, it seems that only the big matches matter.

**Overbearing**

The good folk of Vancouver decided that the Canada II crew, placed seventh in the America's Cup Challenger series, needed encouragement. Noting how the jaunty boxing kangaroo battle flag had boosted morale in Alan Bond's "Australia" syndicate, the Canadians decided to take a similar tack. The resultant flag, depicting a ferocious polar bear wielding a hockey stick, arrived just in time for this week's third round of racing in Fremantle. But the delighted crew must first solve the problem of how to fly it: the flag is about twice the size of their 30-metre mainsail.

## John Tuppen gives the background to this week's wave of unrest

Paris After this week's wave of student demonstrations the Prime Minister, Jacques Chirac, has said he is willing to discuss modifications of the bill on university reform but not to countenance its withdrawal. The proposed measures themselves are not at fault, he believes; they have simply been misunderstood and misinterpreted.

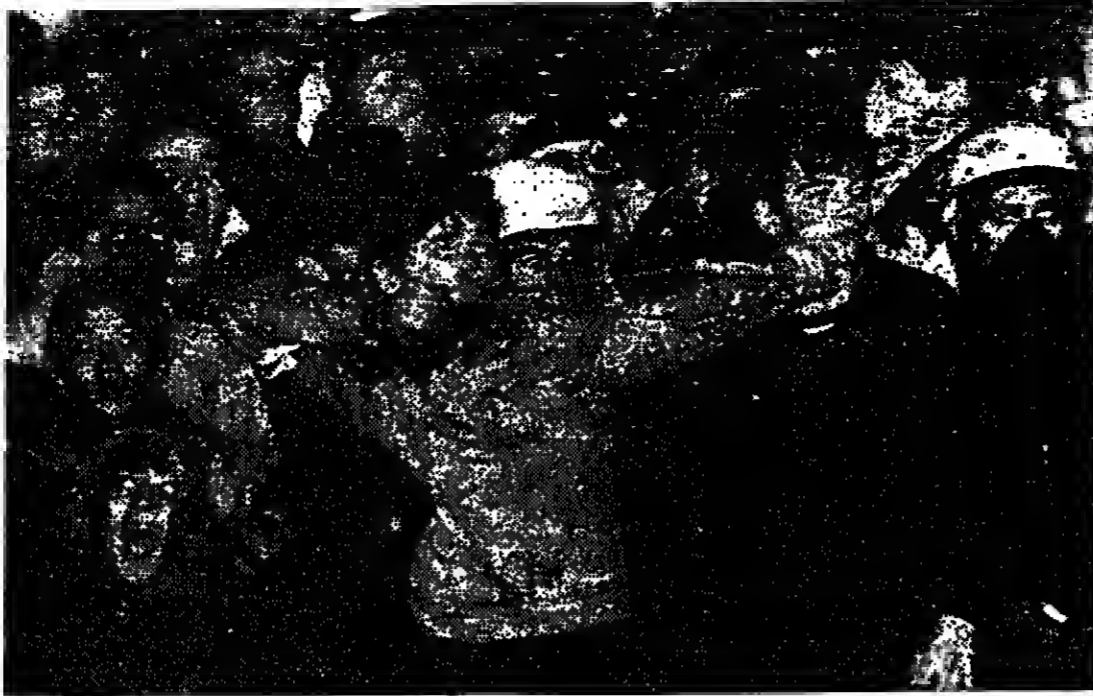
Alain Devaquet, the minister responsible for the universities, sees the bill principally as giving universities greater autonomy. Student misgivings have centred on three particular proposals: to give universities the right to fix their own fees, if necessary putting them up; measures that would nudge students towards courses for which places are available and for which they are best qualified; and the introduction of a new range of degrees and diplomas awarded by individual universities rather than the state.

Fees, now fixed at about Fr450 a year, would range between Fr400 and Fr800. Even at the top level this might appear modest, but in reality the total cost can already be up to three times the basic fee because of additional subscriptions (e.g. for sports facilities) and, for those over 20, social security contributions. The change would prevent many poorer students going to university.

But it is the issue of greater selectivity and possible restrictions on university entry which has most provoked student opposition. This is seen as a direct affront to the long-held principle that the *baccalauréat* represents an automatic passport to a university place. The bill does not propose any change to this fundamental right but there are fears that this will follow and that students will no longer be free to select courses of their choice. The idea of universities awarding their own diplomas is also seen as leading to a more selective system. Along with higher fees, these proposals are seen as threats to the basic rights of liberty and equality.

By contrast, Devaquet and René Manry, the Education Minister, regard the proposals as an important step towards adapting an unmoderated system. And Chirac's view that they have been misunderstood is well grounded, in some respects, there would be little change from the situation today. Selection already exists, whether through a lack of places or a desire to enhance the image of a particular university or department. That is the case both in Paris (notably at Paris-Dauphine, where it is openly admitted) and in provincial centres such as Lyon, Toulouse and Nancy.

It is already accepted that degrees awarded by many of the



Catapult v tear gas: Paris street scene on Thursday night

## So many fuses to the Paris student bomb

smaller provincial universities do not carry the same weight with potential employers as those from universities in the big major cities. Similarly, many universities already award their own diplomas.

And a strong counter-current among students against the protest movement and the lack of widespread support from teaching staff suggest that the bill is much less radical than it might at first appear.

The implication, therefore, is that certain other factors have inflamed feelings. The student movement has sought to emphasize its political independence but it is clear that this week's disturbances have political undercurrents. Part of the explanation for the present bill is that it would replace a reform Act introduced in 1984 by Alain Savary, when he was the Socialist minister of education. The Savary measures were never fully adopted by all universities and were strongly contested, not least by the professional corps, whose powers were considerably reduced.

necessarily innocent bystanders in the present dispute, for many want to avenge the defeat they suffered while in office over their attempt to reduce the role played by private - mainly Roman Catholic - schools. Chirac's ministers may have exacerbated the present situation by their unwillingness to discuss their proposals with student or university representatives.

But it is clear that the present system is wasteful and ill-suited to the demands of the modern employment market. Except for the prestigious *grandes écoles*, medical schools and technical universities (UTs), which are largely unaffected by the protest, the drop-out rate at the end of the first or second year can be up to 50 per cent of the annual intake. Furthermore, while about three quarters of all graduates get a job fairly quickly, often it is not what they had hoped for, itself a cause of disillusionment. If it is accepted that the principal aim of a university education should be to prepare students for a particular career (itself a controversial issue), then some form of improved

orientation or selection seems essential.

Despite renewed efforts by the Chirac government to reduce youth unemployment, France has one of the worst records in this field of the major industrialized countries. So students have reason to be apprehensive about their future. Similarly, the *lycées*, faced with proposals for a revised *baccalauréat*, and uncertainty over university entry, also see their futures threatened.

Arguably, therefore, the main effect of the Devaquet bill has been to mobilize and release the latent discontent among French youth. It is not so much the proposals themselves which have provoked the present unrest but the philosophy behind them, implying for some a more elitist, American-style system of higher education, with associated inequalities in access and in quality.

It is undisputed, however, that the French universities do need reform. Despite the present controversy there is growing agreement between right and left that a more flexible system is required, freed of certain state controls. It is also clear that universities need a period of stability and coherent direction. Whatever the final outcome of the present bill, it has at least brought more into the open a debate which had become highly politicized and which was in danger of taking insufficient account of those directly involved.

*The author, an English university lecturer, is currently attached to the Jean-Moulin University, Lyon.*

## Different systems but it's the same old pinch

Corinne Lafonta is 21 and in her fourth year at the Sorbonne studying for her *maîtrise* in political science. Like most students she receives no government grant. Her mother, who is divorced, has a well-paid job but has two younger children to support and gives Corinne no financial help.

Corinne nevertheless considers herself lucky (writes Diana Geddes) because her mother allows her to live rent-free in a small flat she has in the suburbs, although travelling is expensive and time-consuming.

Like most French students, Corinne pays no tuition fees but has to pay a total of Fr1,660 a year in state social security contributions, registration fees, and various other university dues, in addition to what she needs to spend on food, clothes, books, heating, telephone, and travel.

All this means she has to have a job. Last year she gave German lessons and this year has taken a job looking after two children, aged two and three, for 20 hours a week, from which she earns about Fr2,000 a month. But it is day work and the children need constant attention, so she is unable to get on with her studies.

Her lectures at the Sorbonne take up another 30 hours a week. For four and a half hours a week she takes "directed study" classes, attended by 30-40 students. That is her closest contact with any of her professors.

She has little time for private study: her day begins at 8 am when she leaves home to attend her first class at the Sorbonne at 9.

Classes continue until 1.30. From 2 until 7 she looks after the two children, before returning home at 8 for a quick meal, followed by study until 11.

Sometimes she goes out with her boyfriend on a Saturday evening, but otherwise she has almost no leisure activities: she has not been to the cinema for months. She does not belong to a student union but supports the present protest movement and on Thursday joined the demonstrating students at the Invalides after finishing her child-minding job, but did not have time to take part in the actual march.

Last year she almost gave up university because she found it so difficult keeping up with her studies and earning enough money. But she finally managed to soldier on. Her aim is to get her *maîtrise* in the summer, before going on to study for the highly-competitive *agrégation* examination which she needs for her desired career as a school or university teacher.



Corinne: has to work

Andrea Wilson, a second-year social anthropology student at the London School of Economics, says her parents, who live in Co. Donegal, are comfortably off. Because the student grant is means-tested, that means she receives only £600 a year (instead of the full London grant of £2,246) and has to rely heavily on her parents for her living expenses.

They give her £250 a month: not easy for them, she told John Clare. She earns another £600 a year by working in the anthropology library at lunchtimes but admits that is more for the immediate access it gives her to books than for the money.

"I'm not hungry or in difficulties," she says, "but if I want to go to the theatre or the cinema I've got to budget very carefully. Most of my friends accept that as students they're going to be constrained financially."

Andrea spent her first year in one of the LSE's halls of residence:



Andrea: supported from home

a self-catering flat within walking distance of the college. But she says she prefers to choose her own friends and now shares a pleasant flat in Battersea. But it costs her £35 a week and she is thinking of looking for somewhere cheaper.

A gentle and self-possessed 22-year-old, Andrea was admitted to the LSE with three A-levels: A grades in English and French and an E in German. She had worked in Sudan for a year, half of it teaching English and the rest in a nutrition centre at a refugee camp.

"It's less horrific than watching it on television: at least you feel you're doing something." And it gave her a taste for anthropology.

Her formal workload is light: four hours a week of lectures (between 20 and 80 students in the class) and another four hours of seminars, usually in groups of 12. But that is not counting all the essays and reading she has to do. Andrea says her aim is to work on her own for about four hours a day.

She takes her work seriously, and clearly enjoys herself. "I love the subject," she says, "though I am finding the course a bit frustrating. You have to be very analytical and critical, which I am not used to."

She says it is possible to have a very full social life at the LSE: it has many clubs and societies and the college itself is close to Covent Garden. However, being so central has its drawbacks: there is not much of what she calls a "community spirit" because most students treat the campus like a 9 to 5 office.

But she adds, smiling: "I've no complaints, really."

**Manila**

The Philippines revolution has shown a second chance as President Corason Aquino seeks to consolidate her power with a truly stable government.

The victory won by the priests, nuns and people's power last February, backed by the army's decision to abandon the Marcos regime, has proved uncertain over the intervening months: both the right and the extreme left remain unsatisfied: the right because Juan Ponce Enrile, dismissed as Defence Minister last month, was thwarted in his attempt to seize power; the left because it missed the chance which the revolutionary situation offered.

But now, given luck and greater determination than she has hitherto shown, Mrs Aquino will be able to begin restoring the economy and the country's image abroad. The instability of her 10 months in office has taught her that those to whom she is closest are not necessarily those most suited to run the country. She has already dismissed two ministers for corruption and the head of two big government concerns whom she considered too supportive of Enrile. Other ministers may follow, including some considered incompetent by the military. That incompetence has added to the government's image of indecision.

Projects in the Marcos years, started with international loans, were bankrupt before the coup-

## David Watts on the post-Enrile changes

### Aquino gets her second chance

ment to start them even left Japan because the principal aim was to skim off most of the cash as soon as the money was made available. Add to these problems an economy with a \$26 billion foreign debt and a residue of hostile regional politicians and the challenge was a formidable one even for the most experienced leader.

Mrs Aquino introduced competent, hard-working technocrats into an administration hopelessly inadequate in skills or experience. While she has grown with her job, showing greater skill and firmness, the same cannot be said of her ministers. The crucial post of Executive Secretary went to Jnker Arroyo, a human rights lawyer who defended Mrs Aquino's husband, the late Senator Benigno Aquino, against President Marcos at a time when many other lawyers preferred to look the other way. Her choice for Labour Minister, Augusto Sanchez, was criticized for frightening away as much foreign investment as did Enrile with his constant criticism and hints of a coup.

Despite his pre-government

credentials, Arroyo in office displayed all the management skills of a village shopkeeper; the leftist Sanchez proved unacceptable to businessmen and to a section of the military which had grown accustomed, during the Marcos years, to presidential decrees or assassinations taking care of such untidy bits of democracy.

Last month the army again determined the outcome of the latest attempt to destabilize the government and it will continue to do so unless Mrs Aquino continues as she has begun with what she calls her "fresh start".

The situation has been further complicated and the army made unhappy by the ceasefire with the communists of the New People's Army and the planned peace negotiations. One consequence has been government permission for the National Democratic Front to establish an office in Manila, legitimizing what is still a relatively small political force. There is no doubt that the radicals must be accommodated for the sake of peace, but the present liberalism disturbs those who can provide

the investment and jobs which are essential to combat the root causes of the insurgency.

If Mrs Aquino can now prove that she can rule rather than merely reign, she may yet help to save the Philippines from what looks increasingly likely to be its fate: yet another coup-prone Third World country. Some of the young colonels who supported Enrile may be going back to their parent units, neutralized for the present, but the military is now irrevocably politicized.

Mrs Aquino's Christian spirit of forgiveness does nothing to discourage these adventures. No one is being punished for the last three such incidents.

She must be ready to do all the dirty work on her own next time. She is assisted now by two products of West Point in General Fidel Ramos, army chief of staff, and Rafael Ileto, the new Defence Minister, a combination to gladden the heart of the most jaded US policy maker. Both, for the present, are going along with her strategy of peace talks with the communists and dissident Muslims, but in this and other issues there is plenty of scope for divergence later on.

But her supporters hope Mrs Aquino can make it to the plebiscite next February. Officially, it is on the new constitution, but everyone in the Philippines and abroad will see it as a referendum on her popularity.

## Peter Brimelow

# Of moles and Mounties

New York Almost exactly 30 years ago, Canada's external affairs minister, Lester B. Pearson, played a major role in orchestrating the United Nations censure of the Anglo-French Suez expedition. This heroic feat helped win him the Nobel Peace Prize; and that, in turn, materially assisted him to become Liberal Party leader and Canadian prime minister. He died, much honoured, in 1972.

No one would dispute Pearson's place in the pantheon of international progressivism. But a new book, *No Sense of Evil: Espionage, The Case of Herbert Norman*, suggests that there is room for argument about the precise nature of that progressivism.

The author, James Barros, a professor of history at the University of Toronto, uses previously secret government documents to assess the career of Herbert Norman, the Canadian ambassador to Cairo. In 1957, in the immediate aftermath of Suez, Norman committed suicide after being cited as a former communist in testimony before the US Senate's Internal Security sub-committee. Contrary to popular legend, throughout the 1950s there was loud and indignant opposition to what was invariably called "McCarthyism" - although the controversial junior senator from Wisconsin had nothing to do with this investigation. After Norman's death, liberal outrage in the US and Canada was so intense that the very existence of the sub-committee was threatened.

Pearson, in the Canadian House of Commons, was particularly outspoken until John Diefenbaker, the Opposition leader, asked him to deny the American allegations. To everyone's surprise, Pearson hedged. It emerged that while at Cambridge Norman had indeed "associated... with people who were thought to be communists." He had been questioned about this by the Canadian authorities as early as 1951.

It is a measure of the universal reluctance to think about security problems that Herbert Norman has nevertheless gone down in Canadian history as an immaculate martyr. It is particularly extraordinary because gradually, over the years, Norman's defenders have shifted their ground. Now their position is that everyone knew "Herbie" had been a communist at Cambridge. After all, he once tried to recruit to the cause a fellow Canadian, Robert Bryce, who also went into the Canadian civil service and eventually headed it. But Norman's defenders say, so what? That doesn't mean he was a spy.

This concession effectively ends the debate about Herbert Norman. To admit that he was once a communist is to admit that he was, by definition, a security risk. The safety of the state is always too important to permit the

assumption of innocence until guilt is proved in the satisfaction of lawyers. The Senate sub-committee was right, and its innumerable critics wrong.

Professor Barros, however, goes much further. He is able to show that Norman lied in his interrogations. Combined with massive circumstantial and other evidence, such as the subsequent testimony of spies such as Sir Anthony Blunt ("Herb was one of us"), this leads Barros to conclude that Norman was probably at least a Soviet "agent of influence".

Any such conclusion is necessarily speculative. More concrete, and ultimately more alarming, is Barros's demonstration of Pearson's deep commitment to the sustained effort to protect Norman. Pearson was directly responsible for the perfunctory investigation of Norman in the early 1950s. He deliberately deceived the Canadian House of Commons about the results.

Pearson's behaviour must raise the gravest questions about his motives. And Professor Barros suggests grave answers. In a remarkable coup, he has obtained the long-rumoured secret testimony of Elizabeth Bentley, courier for a Soviet spy ring in Washington, before the Senate sub-committee in 1951. Under oath, Bentley said that Lester Pearson had knowingly passed information to her ring while working in the Canadian embassy in Washington during the Second World War.

Whatever the truth of Bentley's assertion, the fact that it was known at the highest levels in North America is indisputable. For example, when Diefenbaker was prime minister years later, he even used it to parry an attempt by Pearson to put pressure on his government during a complex Ottawa sex scandal, the so-called Munsinger affair.

Bentley's assertion is a fact that could help set in perspective such topics as the persistent anti-Americanism of Canada's governing classes and Ottawa's prolonged refusal to prosecute Professor Hugh Hambleton, of Laval University, who for years openly admitted he had spied for the KGB but was finally arrested and convicted only after he strayed into British jurisdiction.

It could - but it probably won't. Despite the efforts of Chapman Pincher and Andrew Boyle, our political culture simply lacks the language to discuss security risks. Lester Pearson could have been merely an irresponsibly ambitious bureaucrat currying favour with an influential (and allied) power through the Washington practice of the leak. But unless he was meeting Russians at midnight wearing a cloak and rapier, our press and politicians would prefer not to know.

*The author is a senior editor of Forbes Magazine.*

## Philip Howard

# Grammar: rules but not rule

I dare say that our education system is hopelessly old-fashioned and that the children we are turning out from school are feeble, illiterate and ill-prepared for the modern world. As any rate it is comforting for our vanity to think that we were so much better educated than they are. The extreme argument that standards are falling would be more impressive if the ideologues who put it used English better. It is an agreeable irony that devotees of the three Rs, flogging, and grammatical studies are not distinguished for any very remarkable felicities of expression.

When was this golden age of English grammar? I usually turn out to have been when the angry old men and women were at school themselves. Their problem is not falling standards, but age. They find themselves surrounded by bewildering new knowledge and younger rivals, and the only change they can confidently attack is the change in the supposedly adamantine laws of grammar.

In fact we were taught very little English grammar. At primary school we parsed, and learnt by rote long spelling lists of difficult words like diarrhoea and eschscholtzia, so that to this day I can write them down confidently without snatching for the dictionary. An impressive trick, and as useful as Heather, the Jack Russell, being able to bounce a football on her nose six times without it touching the ground.

At secondary school we were taught an "English", apart from being required to write Sunday Questions (essays on a devotional theme) and essays for a General Paper. An anxious mother once asked the Head of Greek how a boy could pass through the Old Coll from the age of 12 to 18 without ever having to read Shakespeare or Dickens except for the purpose of translating them into Greek or Latin verses or prose. Richard replied imperially: "They can read them in the holidays."

Alas, impratification and damnation, there is no evidence that the children coming out of our schools are worse than we were. They may be worse speakers, but a learned decrier emphatically that standards are as high as they were 30 years ago, and the sixth form children I meet seem alarmingly bright, and more articulate than we were.

What has happened is that there has been a reaction from the *ancien régime* of the three Rs and learning eschscholtzia by rote to self-expression and a let-it-all-hang-out radicalism.

We could have done with a bit more self-expression instead of plagiarizing our text books. But like all reactions, the reaction from the old grammatical purism has been taken too far by some



Chris Wormell

enthusiasts. What is needed is a sensible advance towards the noble goal of universal literacy and articulation for our children. It is worth remembering that this is a very recent goal indeed.

Grammar was made for man, not man for grammar. It can be taken too far. On his death-bed the great French grammarian Dominique Bouhours announced: "I am about to... or I am going to... die, either expression is used." And the grammar of the Golden Age was not all that hot. The schoolboys who became the literary stars of the Elizabethan Age learnt from *Humanus Vulgaria*, translating English into Latin, badly. We will play with a ball of wynde: *Lusum erit nobis folia pugilatis spiritu tumens*. This was handball, not football, which was considered barbarous, and forbidden by the Act of Parliament at the time. The contemporary *Book of the Governor* speaks of "Football, wherein is nothing but beastly fury and extreme violence, whereof proceedeth hurt, and consequently with them that be wounded." Our common standards of grammar and football have improved greatly since those uncouth days.







COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 5: His Excellency Mr Cecil S. Pilgrim received in audience by the Queen...

ningham and, having been received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Nottinghamshire (Sir Gordon Hobday) and the Lord Mayor of Nottingham (Councillor F Higgins)...

A scapegoat for the true nature of evil

The new information given by Myra Hindley about children who disappeared more than twenty years ago has reopened the question of her parole...

who tortured and murdered in the death camps, that many shared responsibility for those acts "under orders"...

OBITUARY

SIR EDWARD YOUDE

Quiet mastery in Chinese dealings



Sir Edward Youde, GCMG, GCOV, MBE, Governor of Hong Kong and former Ambassador to China, died on December 4. He was 62.

months after his arrival, Peking announced its proposals for the reversion of Hong Kong to Chinese sovereignty in 1997...

Birthdays

TODAY: Mr Jack Ashley, CH, MP, 64; Mr David Bruce, 66; Vice-Admiral Sir John Cadell, 57; Mr Monty Court, 58; Air Marshal Sir John Curtis, 62; Lord Enslin, 67; Earl Granville, 68; Sir Denis Hamilton, 68; Miss Jill Hammsley, 35; Mr Derek Hill, 70; Sir William Keswick, 83; Mr Jonathan King, 42; Mr R.E.B. Llynd, 58; the Right Rev. Eric Mercer, 69; Mr George Pinker, 62; Professor Sir George Porter, 66; Mr Reginald Stacey, 85; Sir Bryan Thwaites, 63; Mr Charles Vance, 57; the Right Rev. Peter Walker, 67; Mr Cyril Washbrook, 72.

Marriages

Mr J.E.K. Rae and Mrs G.M. Thompson: The marriage took place quietly on Friday, December 5, in Chester between Mr Keith Rae, of Stone Cottage, Alpraham, Tarporley, Cheshire, and Mrs Gillian Thompson, daughter of Major-General Sir Rupert Brazier-Creagh, of Sandycare, Tarvin Sands, Chester.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr G.M.B. Adams and Miss G.A. Martin: The engagement is announced between George, youngest son of Mr and Mrs M.G.R. Adams, of Dymock, Gloucestershire, and Christine, daughter of Mr and Mrs J.P. Martin, of Southgate, London.

Dinner

Prime Minister: The Prime Minister was host at a dinner yesterday evening at 10 Downing Street on the occasion of the meeting of the European Council.

Service dinner

1st Regiment Royal Horse Artillery: Past and present members of the 1st Regiment Royal Horse Artillery held their annual reunion dinner at Woolwich last night.

Bryanston School

Sixth-form scholarships have been awarded to the following: Late Eamon Dwyer, 19; Joseph Beweridge, 20; Michael J. Ryan, 20; Peter R. Hughes, 20; Thomas J. Kelly, 20; Thomas J. Kelly, 20; Thomas J. Kelly, 20.

Peter Mullen

Vicar of Teckwith, North Yorkshire: Mr Peter Mullen, 55, was appointed to the living of Teckwith, North Yorkshire, in the Diocese of Leeds.

MR H. de CRONIN HASTINGS

Mr H. de Cronin Hastings, for four decades a famous name in the architectural world, died on December 3. He was 84.

SIR RICHARD CAVE

Sir Richard Cave, MC, industrialist, died yesterday. He was 66.

Exquisite Designer Furs advertisement for Ross Furriers. Includes a list of fur products and prices, such as SAGA FOX JACKETS for £295, RAINCOATS for £395, and MINK JACKETS for £895. A large 'ONE DAY ONLY' banner is featured.

Charity preview

A special charity preview of the comedy, 'An Italian Straw Hat', will be held in the presence of the Duchess of Gloucester at the Shaftesbury Theatre on Wednesday night.

Christening

The son of Mr and Mrs Jamie Crookenden was christened Harry George in the Chapel Royal of St Peter ad Vincula in the Tower of London by the Chaplain, the Rev John Lamberton.

Moreton Hall

The scholarship examination will take place on February 3, 1987. There will be two sections: a written test and a practical test.

Reception

HM Government: Mr Malcolm Rifkind, QC, Secretary of State for Scotland, and Mrs Rifkind were hosts yesterday at a reception held at 6 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh for the last Year Scottish Committee.

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

AND MORE...
BIRTHS

BOUCHER On November 30th 1986...
MARRIAGES
ECONOMY FAIRFAX JONES

DEATHS
ATLNER On December 3rd, Major...
BERNETT On December 1st 1986...

MARRIAGES
ECONOMY FAIRFAX JONES
DEATHS
ATLNER On December 3rd, Major...

MEMORIAL SERVICES
MARRIAGES
ECONOMY FAIRFAX JONES
DEATHS

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHERE THERE'S A WILL...
HEALTH UNLIMITED

SERVICES

ANCESTRY
ACHIEVEMENTS DEPT T

WANTED

WE BUY BOOKS...
FLATSHARE

FOR SALE

FLATS

RENTALS

RENTALS

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cancer
Together we can beat it.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOU'LL BE FLOORED BY OUR PRICES AT RESISTA CARPETS

FOR SALE

FLATS

RENTALS

RENTALS

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

Hooligan or Stereotype?
Football violence, old ladies being mugged, cars written off, homes ransacked - is this your view of crimes committed by teenagers today?

THEATRES
BARRACKS On 31/10/86...
JUDI MICHAEL DENCH WILLIAMS

THEATRES
THE BUSINESS OF MURDER
JUDI MICHAEL DENCH WILLIAMS

THEATRES
THE THEATRE OF COMEDY
AN ITALIAN STRAW HAT

THEATRES
THE THEATRE OF COMEDY
THE MUSSETT

THEATRES
THE THEATRE OF COMEDY
THE MUSSETT

YOUDE nose dealings
Vertical text on the far left margin.

YOUDE nose dealings
Vertical text on the far left margin.

Second Sunday in Advent
CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL
LONDON PALLADIUM

ART GALLERIES
LEFFLER GALLERY
WATSON GALLERY

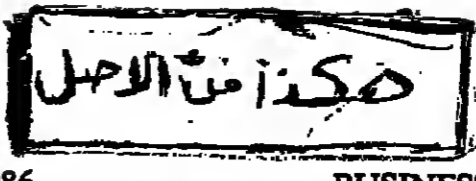
RENTALS
FLATS
FOR SALE

LEGAL NOTICES
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
NOTICE IN HERBY ACT 1985









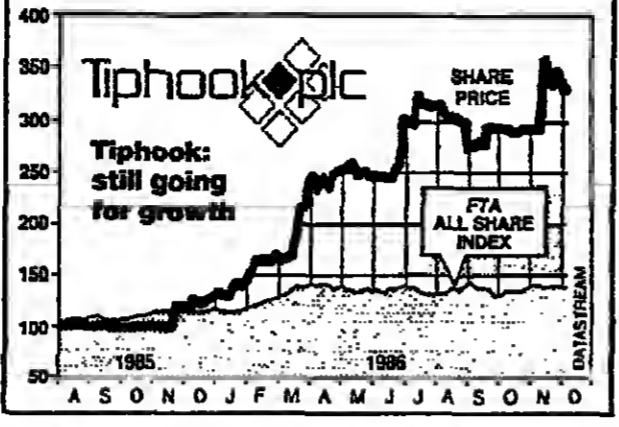
to market challenge

Colin Narbhun... The market has been... with the FT 100...

Dealers bank on fresh S & N battle for Matthew Brown

By Michael Clark and Carol Leonard... Dealers are bracing themselves for a multi-million pound bid for Matthew Brown...

(STOCK MARKET)



million with an even better performance on the cards for the second half... Analysts are currently looking for a final figure of £4.5 million...

the other mining finance group, Charter Consolidated, where Mr Oppenheimer owns a 36 per cent stake...

The game of musical chairs is still going on among stockbrokers...

selective support from the institutions... It looks as though they have been oversold in recent weeks...

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet The law steps in - but so softly softly

The City Takeover Panel, in its wisdom, decided that it did not want to enshrine its nebulous but powerful position within the provisions of the Financial Services Act...

Rising sun behind a cloud

Concerns lying behind the dollar-yen pact are exposed very clearly to view by the latest figures for growth in the Japanese economy...

Mexico's oil revenue crash is making debts unserviceable

Oil production costs have always been a state secret in Mexico, but the other day, at the ministry of energy...

Pohl expects dollar to stay stable

Hamburg (AP-Dow Jones) - There is reason to hope for a continuation of stable dollar rates...

TEMPUS Demerger threat to L and N

Includes a line graph of L & N share price and detailed text discussing the demerger threat and financial performance of Johnson Fry and Standard Chartered.

Advertisement for Target Managed Funds, featuring a table of fund values, performance statistics, and contact information for Target Group PLC.

Main table of Unit Trusts with columns for Bid Offer, Weekly Chng Ytd, and various fund names like ARNEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS, BARRON MANAGEMENT, etc.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Table of Unlisted Securities with columns for High Low, Bid Offer, Chng, Div, Yld, and company names like B & M Co, B & B Co, etc.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table of Investment Trusts with columns for High Low, Bid Offer, Chng, Div, Yld, and fund names like ARNEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS, BARRON MANAGEMENT, etc.

COMMODITIES

Table of Commodities with columns for High Low, Bid Offer, Chng, Div, Yld, and commodity names like SOYABEAN, ALUMINUM, etc.

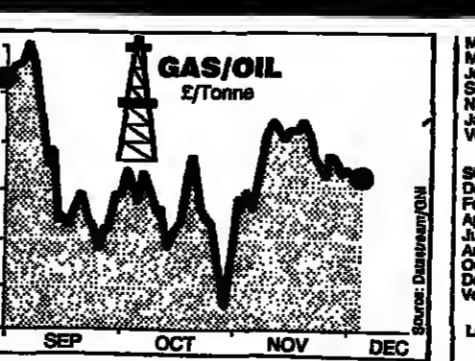


Table of commodity prices including SOYABEAN, ALUMINUM, NICKEL, and LONDON METAL EXCHANGE.

Text describing the Gasoil market, mentioning heavy suppliers and the impact of the Opec meeting.

Table of LONDON GRAIN FUTURES and LONDON POTATO FUTURES prices.

Additional text regarding market conditions and futures trading.

Small text at the bottom right corner of the page.



Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If a market, you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money started. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

Table with columns: No., Company, Group, Gain or Loss. Lists various companies like Halcrow James, Taffys, Guinness, etc.

Please take account of any minus signs

Table for Weekly Dividend with columns: MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT, Sunday Total.

BRITISH FUNDS

Table for SHORTS (Under Five Years) with columns: No., Fund, Price, Dividend, etc.

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

Table for FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS with columns: No., Fund, Price, Dividend, etc.

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

Table for OVER FIFTEEN YEARS with columns: No., Fund, Price, Dividend, etc.

UNDATED

Table for UNDATED with columns: No., Fund, Price, Dividend, etc.

INDEX-LINKED

Table for INDEX-LINKED with columns: No., Fund, Price, Dividend, etc.

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

Table for BANKS DISCOUNT HP with columns: No., Bank, Price, Dividend, etc.

سوق من الاجل

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Quiet end to account

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted) ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began on November 24. Dealings ended yesterday. Settlement day Monday, December 15. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Where stocks have only one price quoted, these are middle prices taken daily at 5pm. Yield, change and P/E are calculated on the middle price

Table for Breweries with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for Buildings and Roads with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for Finance and Land with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for Foods with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for Chemicals, Plastics with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for Cinemas and TV with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for Drapery and Stores with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for Hotels and Caterers with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for Industrials A-D with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for E-K with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for L-N with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for O-P with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for Q-R with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for S-T with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for U-V with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for W-X with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for Y-Z with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for Electricals with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for Insurance with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for Leisure with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for Mining with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for Motors and Aircraft with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for Newspapers and Publishers with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for Oil with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for Shipping with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for Shoes and Leather with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for Textiles with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for Overseas Traders with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for Paper, Printing, Advert'g with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for Property with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for Tobacco with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Portfolio Gold

DAILY DIVIDEND £4,000 WEEKLY DIVIDEND £8,000 Claims required for +40 points Claims required for +183 points Claimants should ring 0254-53272

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

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Table for Textiles with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Table for Tobacco with columns: No., Company, Price, Dividend, etc.

Ex dividends Ex all Ex b Forecast dividend Ex interim payment passed Ex price of suspension Ex dividend and yield exclude a special payment Ex Pro-merger figures Ex Forecast earnings Ex other Ex significant data Ex share code Ex time

Edited by Peter Gartland

FAMILY MONEY/1

Stars with go in show and business



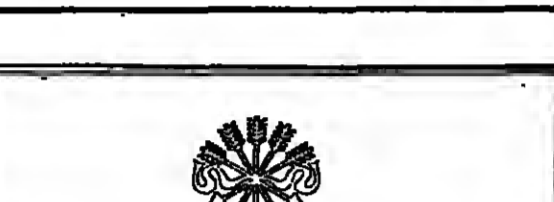
Behind the scenes and in the spotlight: tax expert Leslie Lively, left, advises celebrities, including A-ha, centre. Adam Faith has just entered the stage...

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Now in its 4th year, PET offers effective and proven tax shelter. The portfolio of enterprise zone property, meeting exacting criteria, will provide a 100% tax allowance in 1986/87 tax year. And a quarterly income.

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For further information and the current prospectuses, please complete and return this coupon to: Robin Fuller, N M Rothschild Asset Management (C.I.) Limited.

Form for requesting information from N M Rothschild Asset Management. Fields include Name and Address.

N M ROTHSCHILD ASSET MANAGEMENT

'What do you want if you don't want money?' says Adam Faith as he embarks on the metamorphosis from £12-a-week teenager to £100,000-a-year pop idol.

Believe it or not, that was more than a quarter of a century ago.

Pop stars have always had to accept the risk of ephemeral fame but, back in 1959, who would have put money on Adam Faith and his contemporaries, Cliff Richard and Tommy Steele, still being household names in 1986...

The fact that these celebrities have survived and prospered and weathered the changing fashions of a notoriously fickle industry demonstrates that their business nous is as strong as their show business clout.

The administration services will be charged at what Adam Faith calls book-keeping rates, whereas income management will cost his clients a fee of 2.5 per cent of the money being managed and asset management will cost up to 1 per cent a year.

Who better to provide that link than someone who is not only known and admired in show business but also respected for his entrepreneurial skills in the City.

Leslie Lively, a tax specialist with chartered accountants Moores and Rowland, has been handling the affairs of celebrities for several years.

He points out that the scale of international tax planning is such that some celebrities probably do not know who their advisers are.

Among the stars whom Leslie Lively has advised are Joan Sutherland, John Dankworth and Cleo Laine.

Mr Livens points out quite factually that if Mr Slater was not British, A-ha's multi-million-dollar financial affairs would probably be handled by a firm such as Arthur Andersen in New York.

and the United States and are now on a world tour. A-ha's manager is Terry Slater, who, in true show business style, used to play bass guitar for the Everly Brothers.

Mr Livens points out quite factually that if Mr Slater was not British, A-ha's multi-million-dollar financial affairs would probably be handled by a firm such as Arthur Andersen in New York.

Unit trusts and currency funds have democratized what were previously regarded as rarefied investment media; and even direct equity invest-

ment is now of great interest to private investors.

There are other options, such as membership of Lloyd's, which are open to the ubiquitous Sid of British Gas fame only if he happens to have assets of at least £100,000 in addition to his own home.

Adam Faith says he joined Lloyd's eight years ago following a conversation with a Lloyd's managing agent at a party in Los Angeles.



Peter Gartland

UNIT LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

Large table listing various investment funds, their performance, and management details. Columns include fund names, managers, and performance metrics.

The prices in this section refer to Thursday's trading

# Going up, Down Under

## INVESTMENT

"Would you invest in Australia? Australia would be the last place you'd want to invest."

So said John Elliott, head of the Elders-IXL conglomerate and arguably one of the most astute Australians when it comes to investing.

Like many of the country's businessmen, he takes one look at Australia's high inflation rate, huge balance of payments deficit and uncomfortably high foreign debt, and puts his money elsewhere — £1.4 billion of it to be precise, the sum he paid Lord Hanson for the Courage beer empire.

Other Australian entrepreneurs such as Robert Hofmes & Court and Alan Bond have also been notably unpatriotic with their investments in recent years.

But if the Australian economy is in such a bad state as these gentlemen seem to believe, why is the stock market touching new heights? The All-Ordinaries Index rose 9.7 to 1420.4 yesterday, 42 per cent higher than where it started the year.

The optimism is familiar to all those who favour the Bloody Marys to cure their

hangovers, is that "if things don't look like getting much better, at least there's little chance of them getting any worse."

In fact, things have been looking up for the Australian investment scene since around mid-year, when the Australian dollar was fast sinking in the south. It was at that point that Paul Keating, the Treasurer — the Down Under version of the Chancellor — uoiced a budget that turned the screws on public spending and tightened control of the money supply.

### 'Attitudes led to the improvements'

At the same time, the government is taking a hard line on wage rises with the country's traditionally strong trade unions.

All this conservative economic thinking has impressed investors, especially as it comes from a Labor government.

The Australian dollar has stopped sliding off the map against the US dollar and has even appreciated against sterling. At one point the pound could buy 2.50 Australian

dollars; today it fetches 2.18.

The outlook has also been helped by the rise in the gold price, which has brought fresh life to a mining sector depressed in recent years by falling demand from the sluggish economies in Europe, Japan and the United States.

The Australian gold mine index has done even better than the overall index, more or less doubling in the past five months.

All this has given a rosy complexion in recent months to the 17 unit trusts which put most of their money into Australia. In October, for example, average prices rose by 16.8 per cent on a bid-to-bid basis, according to *Money Management*.

The economic picture now presents mixed signals. On the positive side, gross domestic product, after declining for nine months, finally showed some growth in the third quarter of the year, even if the improvement was a modest 0.2 per cent.

However, the current account deficit and the overseas debt figures are still alarmingly high, while an inflation rate of almost 9 per cent is well above that of Australia's main trading rivals.

As David Hutchins, of M&G Investment Management, admits, it is attitudes rather than real economic improvement that have helped the stock markets in Australia to recent months.

"Perceptions have changed greatly towards Australia," he says. "The economic fundamentals are exactly the same as at the beginning of the year when no one wanted to know about the country."

Mr Hutchins' fund is the largest and one of the oldest of those on offer in the Australian sector and has been among the top three performers over the past one, three

and five years. Mr Hutchins is cautiously optimistic about prospects for next year.

"There are some good company results starting to come through, and hopefully the current account deficit will start to flatten out by early next year," he says.

The M&G fund is about 60 per cent weighted towards the mining sector, with the rest in industrial companies. Some of these have strong overseas interests, which Mr Hutchins has chosen as a safety net just in case the Australian dollar goes walkabout again in a southerly direction.



**Bob Hawke: election factor**

There are other uncertainties which may mean that investors will need a bit of luck if they decide to go for the lucky country. The gold price, for example, has been kind to Australia this year but could show its more fickle side in 1987 and fall back.

In addition, the Prime Minister Bob Hawke will be forced to call a general election by March 1988 at the latest, which leads many economists to suspect that the next budget may be a vote-winning one with give-aways and tax concessions that could harm the economy.

Richard Lander

## Risks of the Gas speculators

■ Your chances of success in selling British Gas shares through a bank before receiving your letter of acceptance, some time in the week beginning December 15, will depend on which bank you use. Barclays will not permit dealings in British Gas until letters of acceptance can be produced. The official line at Lloyds, Midland and National Westminster is strong discouragement of pre-acceptance letters selling but local managers do have discretion and may be prepared to allow customers of their acquaintance to sell during next week.

If you really insist on selling before receiving your letter of acceptance — and there may or may not be an advantage in doing so depending on the British Gas share price movement — you can also do so through licensed dealers such as Cleveland Securities, Harward Securities and Procor Harwin. The spread between buying and selling prices is likely to be bigger than you will get quoted by your bank or stockbroker and there may be administration charges as well. Yesterday afternoon, Cleveland was quoting a British Gas buying price of 55p and a selling price of 56p.

If you do sell shares which you are not absolutely sure you own, whether through a bank, stockbroker or licensed dealer, and it subsequently transpires that you do not own the shares, you will be liable for any market price movements that go against you.

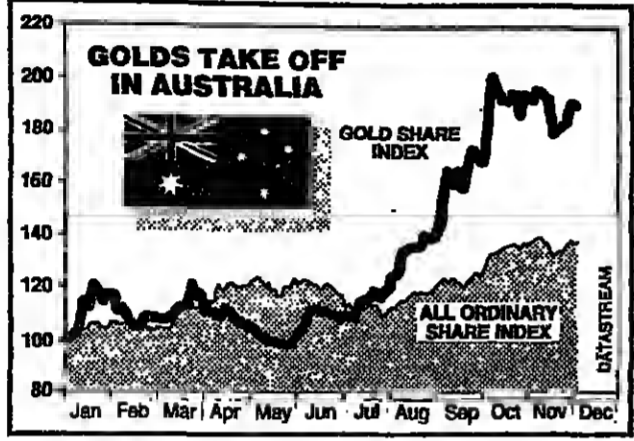
## Branching-out societies

■ With new freedoms for building societies coming into effect from January 1, the race is now on to provide a wider range of services for customers. This week the National & Provincial, Britain's seventh biggest building society, teamed up with Bank of Scotland to offer its 1.5 million customers unsecured loans for cars, furniture and other consumer durables. The finance will be provided by Bank of Scotland's wholly owned finance house, North West Securities.

National & Provincial will also be offering its customers a Visa card and cheque books, with clearing facilities provided by Bank of Scotland.

In a separate move, Leeds Permanent also announced a personal loans service, also in conjunction with North West Securities.

Meanwhile, Cheltenham & Gloucester has come up with a package of insurance products to be underwritten by Royal Insurance and an investment product in conjunction with Garmora combining



## Tighter line on home loans

### MORTGAGES

One way in which the Government has previously suggested this anomaly could be ended is to apply mortgage interest relief to the residence rather than the individual taxpayer.

If this change is introduced, the major impact is likely to be on young people buying in London and the South-East, where soaring house prices have pushed the average mortgage way over £30,000. The relief can be worth up to £90 a month per person and this would effectively be halved.

Although the amount that MIRAS is costing the country has doubled, the real value of the £30,000 limit to the individual taxpayer has been drastically eroded. If 1974 levels were restored, the threshold would need to be more than trebled.

Yet there are calls from various sources for the whole system of tax relief on mortgage payments to be abolished. The most recent proponents of this range from the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors to the Church of England.

But the tax relief seems safe in Mrs Thatcher's hands, especially as a general election approaches.

Were one of the Opposition parties to be elected, however, it is likely that changes would be made. Removing the tax relief altogether might prove too painful politically, but it is probable that tax relief would be restricted to the basic rate. At present, tax relief can be claimed at a person's top rate.

One of the reasons for the increase in tax relief claimed is the growing popularity of endowment mortgages. When MIRAS was introduced, endowment mortgages accounted for only a quarter of new loans, but the proportion is now 70 per cent or more and building societies have encouraged wholesale switching into them.

Another area of concern in the report is top-up mortgage lending. Although this is ostensibly for home improvements, much of it goes towards the purchase of cars, holidays and so on. The Bank of England has estimated that this "leakage", as it is known, amounted to more than \$6 billion in 1985.

The report recommends that builders' receipts should be required as evidence that top-up mortgage lending is being spent on improvements.

Jane Alexander

## —The Gresham Trust— Management Buy-Out —BES Fund—

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Applications to subscribe will be accepted only on the terms and conditions set out in the Fund Memorandum. The minimum investment is £2,000 and the maximum is £40,000. Applications, which will be treated in strict order of receipt, must be received by 19 December 1986.

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To find out more about the market, please contact Mary-Ann Rogers at The Options Development Group, The Stock Exchange, London EC2N 1HP.

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FAMILY MONEY/3

The drink driver's cover

CAR INSURANCE

The Christmas spirit is about to be uncorked, and advertisements are reappearing for a controversial type of insurance, reports JOE IRVING

Drivers can get insurance to cover themselves for the cost of alternative transport if they are banned for traffic offences, including drunk driving.

There are group facilities for companies, but the main targets are those who may not be able to afford taxis, chauffeur-driven cars or other means of getting about until the licence is restored. Remember, for many self-employed people mobility is essential.

Policies cover disqualification for traffic offences under the totting-up system where an accumulation of 12 penalty points brings a driving ban. Penalties range from three points for speeding to 10 for more serious offences, so a speeding offence, following other endorsements, can result in disqualification.

But it is the drink connection that brings widespread disapproval of this type of insurance. Because it mitigates what to many offenders is the most serious effect of a conviction, it is held to be an encouragement to drinking and driving.

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents

'Only one in 2,000 offenders caught'

(ROSPA) says: "It is immoral. The inconvenience of losing the licence should not be made any easier. There should be no way in which people who may kill or injure others should be allowed to escape any part of their punishment."

Don Steele, director of Action on Alcohol Abuse, said it was estimated that only one in 250 drink drivers was caught. But he adds: "It is more like one in 2,000. Insurance must be an added incentive to take that small risk."

So far this year 104,000 motorists have lost their licences, and Mr Steele says: "We are opposed to this type of insurance, but it is obviously regarded by the companies offering it as a money-spinner."

Three concerns offering cover are St Christopher Motorists' Security Association Ltd, Chauffeurplan Ltd, and Scheme Underwriting (UK) Ltd, whose policy is marketed under the name of Chauffeurguard. St Christopher policies are underwritten by Isle of Man Assurance, Chauffeurplan by New Hampshire Insurance, incorporated in the United States.

Drink-driving insurance is not cheap. The cost depends on the amount and range of

About two and a half pints of beer can be enough to reach the limit, less in some cases. This means the five-pint driver's insurance will probably not do him or her much good.

For companies offering driving-ban insurance, Christmas and the warm summer months when police are on super-alert for drunk drivers, are peak times. St Christopher, with more than 30,000 members, is dealing with 60 inquiries a day, with about six out of 10 signing up.

"The intention of the law is to prevent a suspended motorist from driving - not to restrict his mobility. This type of cover merely places a less well-off motorist in a position comparable to one who has significant personal funds."

A government-sponsored report on drinking and driving made the same point several years ago. The Blennerhassett Committee recommended no action should be taken on insurance schemes of this kind and said a disqualified driver with other means of transport was less likely to drive himself.

The committee said: "While recognizing that the offer of such insurance could create the impression that disqualification can be faced with equanimity, we believe it would be against the insurers' own interest to encourage irresponsible behaviour. There is no reason to suppose that these schemes will be detrimental to road safety."

A decade later public bodies, motoring organizations and the insurance industry as a whole remain unimpressed.

An official of the Automobile Association, which provides insurance services, said it did not comment on the activities of other insurance companies, but added: "The AA totally disagrees with drinking and driving, and we do not provide that kind of insurance."

'No straight answer from the minister'

A RoSPA official said: "We would not just like to see the alcohol limit brought down, but it should be an offence to drive after drinking anything at all."

Action on Alcohol Abuse wants Britain to follow the lead of the Scandinavian countries and ban drink-driving insurance.

Last month a delegation, including Dr John Hazard, a management board member and secretary of the British Medical Association, visited the junior transport minister, Peter Bottomley. "We did not get a straight answer on what he thinks of it," said Mr Steele. "We left a company brochure for him to study."



Don Steele: 'Opposed'



Ian Ruff: not condoning

cover chosen. Besides disqualification, loss of income due to injury, theft or accident can be covered to a limited extent.

The annual charges of St Christopher range from £64 for maximum cover of £4,000 a year to £175 for £8,500. Chauffeurplan cover costs £60 for £4,160 to £175 for £9,620. Chauffeurguard charges £25 a year for £2,000 benefit to £75 for £6,000. There are discounts for groups, and tax relief is allowed on subscriptions of self-employed people and other businesses.

Chauffeurguard will insure drivers over 21 provided the licence has not been suspended in the past five years. St Christopher and Chauffeurplan set an age limit of 25, the former stipulating that the licence has not been revoked for drink driving in the past three years. All three companies will accept for drink-driving cover applicants who already have penalty points, or have them pending.

These companies automatically reject claims from drivers who refuse to supply breath, blood or urine samples to the police. No money will be paid, either, if tests show that the alcohol level is more than twice the legal limit of 35 microgrammes per 100 millilitres of breath or 80 milligrammes per 100 millilitres of blood.

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STOCK SELECTION

The Fund looks to provide investors with an opportunity to benefit from the growth in European markets and the potential to substantially outperform them.

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THE NEXT ADVANCE

After a dull start this year, European economies are now strengthening. The outlook for 1987 suggests a continuation of firm domestically-led growth. We are now beginning to witness the beneficial effects of falling oil prices, lower interest rates and negligible inflation on consumer spending. Companies are increasing their capital to finance future growth and domestic cash flow is rising sharply in response to the increasing popularity of equity investment. Target European Special Situations Fund is ideally positioned to take advantage of these developments.

Please remember unit prices can go down as well as up. Your investment should be considered long term.

THE SEARCH FOR PERFORMANCE

Last year proved to be a time when the greatest increases in share values occurred in some of the best known stocks. As European markets were "discovered" by fund managers the world over, it was frequently the household names which attracted the most interest.

However, we believe that for the remainder of 1986, it could be medium sized under-researched companies able to demonstrate the strongest performance, as professional investors begin to appreciate the modest valuation of these stocks in comparison to their growth potential.

HOW TO INVEST

To invest in Target European Special Situations Fund, please complete the application form below and post it together with your cheque to the freepost address or phone our dealers on Aylesbury (0296) 394000.

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TARGET TARGET GROUP PLC UNIT TRUSTS

\*Source: I.P.A.L. statistics. All figures quoted are offers to bid, net income reinvested, to 24th November 1986.

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Application form for Target European Special Situations Fund, including fields for name, address, and investment amount.

TALE OF THE DRAGON

At the age of three he was absolute ruler of the largest population on earth. He died in 1967 a humble gardener. The remarkable true-life story of P' Yu, China's last Emperor, is now the subject of a new film. Simon Winchester goes in search of the facts behind the fiction.



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FAMILY MONEY/4

How the experts got it all wrong

UNIT TRUSTS

November was the month when many investment experts were proved wrong. Having written off the Japanese market after two months of poor performance, they had to watch the Nikkei Dow Index bounce back to more than make up lost ground.

where all 58 Japanese-invested funds made gains in the month to December 1 and consolidated their positions at the top over the longer term.

The more general Far Eastern funds, however, fared less well, reflecting the fact that many fund managers have been reducing their exposure to Japan in recent months.

UNIT TRUST PERFORMANCE

Value of £100 as at December 1, 1986

Table with columns: One Year, Three Years, THE BEST, THE WORST. Lists various unit trusts and their performance metrics.

Offer to bid basis Net income reinvested

Source: Plannet Savings



Special offers to keep the investors happy

PERKS

Perks are not unusual among companies that want to encourage investors to buy and hold their shares.

But perks should never be considered in isolation. Buy a share that is fundamentally sound with good earnings and growth prospects, not because it offers a discount on its goods.

Generally, performances overall in the unit trust market were rather muted last month - only one fund in the industry managed a gain of more than 10 per cent.

Cheque or cash is needed, not a card

attending the annual meeting of Associated British Foods to the 15 per cent discount on most purchases at Asprey, the Bond Street jeweller.

At ABF, no minimum number of shares is required. At Asprey, you need at least 1,125 ordinary shares for the 15 per cent discount.

Christmas hampers, ranging from the £900 "Olympus" to £20 gifts of delicacies such as smoked salmon, port and Stilton cheese, come from Park Food Group at Birkenhead, with a 20 per cent discount allowed for shareholders.

Shareholders get a 50 per cent discount on the Dover to Calais. Boulogne and Zeebrugge routes, a 40 per cent discount on the Portsmouth to Cherbourg and Le Havre routes, and a 25 per cent discount between Cairnryan and Larne.

The concession is for an unlimited number of return crossings with private car plus four people. There are some restrictions at peak hours.

To qualify for the travel concessions in 1987, you must hold 300 £1 preference shares, and be on the register by December 31, so there is not much time.

Even more popular is the £4 reduction on a meal for two, excluding Saturdays, at any Belfini Inn.

One company gives Centre Court seats

from calculators (Fobel International) to gardening tools (Spear and Jackson), toys and games (Burtons Group at Hamleys), with dry cleaning and shoe repairing (Sketchleys) en route.

The most common concessions are on restaurants, hotels, holidays, wines and entertainments, including a Centre Court or No 1 seat at Wimbledon (non-interest-bearing debentures).

Seymour, Pierce & Co, Stockbrokers, of 10 Old Jewry, London EC2R 8EA, will be publishing a new edition of their book, Concessionary Discounts Available to Shareholders in UK Companies 1986-87, priced at £1.50, early next month.

Jennie Hawthorne

Residence test for tenant's successor

Swanbrae Ltd v Elliott Before Lord Justice Kerr and Mr Justice Swinton Thomas [Judgment November 27]

A person claiming a statutory tenancy by succession under the rent Acts might reside with a relevant relative for the requisite period and have more than one home or more than one residence.

The Court of Appeal, in a reserved judgment, dismissed an appeal by the defendant, Mrs Sheila Elliott, against a judgment of Judge Doby, at Bow County Court, whereby the judge ordered Mrs Elliott to give possession of the dwelling house known as 49 Wellington Road, East Ham, London, to the plaintiffs, Swanbrae Ltd.

Mr Terence Gallivan for Mrs Elliott; Mr Roger McCarthy for the plaintiffs landlords.

MR JUSTICE SWINTON THOMAS said that in October 1983 the landlord predecessor in title granted a tenancy to Mrs Elliott's parents. Her father died in September 1981 and her mother on April 20, 1985.

To the landlords' claim for possession Mrs Elliott pleaded in defence that she was the successor to her mother and was, thus, entitled to a statutory tenancy of the premises.

There was no dispute that Mrs Elliott was a member of the family of that she had been staying at the premises for a period in excess of six months prior to the mother's death. There was no dispute that the mother was a statutory tenant.

Her husband was the tenant of those premises. He left in about 1978 leaving Mrs Elliott and their son living at those premises.

Police can be heard

Regina v Bristol Justices, Ex parte Broome Before Mrs Justice Booth [Judgment November 28]

It was in the best interests of a child that the police should be heard on an application for his release under section 28(2) of the 1969 Act.

Mrs Justice Booth, sitting as an additional judge in the Queen's Bench Division, so declared on the application of Mr Ronald Broome, Chief Constable of Avon and Somerset, for judicial review following a hearing for the release of a child aged seven who had been detained after she had been seen shoplifting in the company of her mother.

HER LADYSHIP said that the chief constable had not sought an order of certiorari to quash the order for release but sought a declaration to establish the principle of the right of the police to be present and heard at the hearing of an application to release a child detained under section 28(2) of the 1969 Act.

By denying the police the right to be heard the justice did not have all the information required when considering the best interests of the child.

There would be a declaration that on an application for the release of a child under section 28(2) that the police should be notified of the application, to be present and heard at the hearing and to give evidence.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Bristol.

BASE LENDING RATES

Table of base lending rates for various banks including ABN, Adam & Company, BCCI, Citibank, etc.

† Mortgage Base Rate.

Current account - no interest paid, seven days notice required for withdrawals. Barclays 5 per cent, Lloyds 5 per cent, Midland 5 per cent, NatWest 5 per cent, National Girobank 5 per cent.

Table of money funds with columns for Fund Name, Net GMAR, and Telephone.

INTEREST RATES ROUND-UP

Table of interest rates for various financial instruments including National Savings Deposit Bond, National Authority Yearling Bonds, Guaranteed Income Bonds, etc.

Advertisement for 'THE STOCK MARKET' book by Neil Stapley, a guide for private investors.

Advertisement for 'You and Unit Trusts' book by Legal & General.

Advertisement explaining 'WHAT IS A UNIT TRUST?' and offering a free copy of the book.

Form for requesting a free copy of 'You and Unit Trusts' book, including name, address, and telephone fields.

Advertisement for 'Top Executives' pension plans, claiming to beat all others.

Advertisement for 'The Equitable Life' pension plans, offering flexibility and unrivalled performance.

Form for requesting a free copy of 'The Equitable Life' pension plan literature.

Advertisement for 'INVEST IN FOOD INDUSTRIES SOUTH OF ITALY' with contact information for Associated Consultants.

Advertisement for 'Puzzled By PEPs?' offering free information and a questionnaire from MacLean Associates.

Advertisement for 'Choosing a Unit Trust' by Hargreaves Lansdown, offering a free copy of a unit investor guide.

Advertisement for 'Mornington 90' bank account offering a 9.60% net rate with immediate access and no-penalty withdrawals.

Advertisement for 'Premier Shares' by Guardian Building Society, offering a 8.95% net rate with high interest paid every quarter.

Advertisement for 'The PREMIER rate' offering a 9.25% net rate with immediate access.



RACING

Mr Moonraker ready for lift-off in Cheltenham showpiece

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Following that encouraging race at Cheltenham last Saturday when he split the main field and Wayward Lad, Mr Moonraker is taken to win the Glen International Gold Cup at Cheltenham today. While it must be conceded that his selection would have a better chance if the ground is softer underfoot, I still feel that the handicapper has erred on the side of leniency in giving him only 11lb...



Nick Gaselee's Bolands Cross, who is fancied for the Lingfield Park Handicap Chase

A storm is brewing over the intention of the Aintree Racecourse Company and Seagram, the current sponsors, to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Grand National in 1988. Several interested parties, including acknowledged National expert Reg Green, are claiming that in no circumstances can 1838 be considered the start of the National...

West Tip dusts off cobwebs on road back to Aintree

By Michael Seely

West Tip, last season's impressive Grand National winner, made a highly satisfactory comeback in the Food Brokers Cheltenham yesterday and is now second favourite at 20-1 for the world's greatest steeplechase at Aintree next April. Although West Tip finished last of the six runners, as Peter Seudamore drove Haventalight home to a narrow victory, he had good ground behind him but then stayed on strongly up the hill to be beaten only just over 15 lengths.

CHELTHENHAM

Selections By Mandarin 12.30 Playschool, 1.05 Melendez, 1.40 Prideaux Boy, 2.15 Mr Moonraker, 2.50 Akram, 3.25 Accuracy.

By Michael Seely 2.15 MR MOONRAKER (nap), 3.25 Accuracy. The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: PRIDEAUX BOY.

Table with columns for race name, runner number, name, odds, and jockey. Races include 12.30 FRED WITTINGTON NOVICE CHASE and 1.40 GLEN INTERNATIONAL BULA HURDLE.

LINGFIELD PARK

Table with columns for race name, runner number, name, odds, and jockey. Races include 1.30 THE A Train, 1.0 Malva Mat, 1.30 Marchess Line, 2.0 BOLANDS CROSS, 2.30 Yalpa, 3.0 Tawdrige, 3.30 Indian Hal.

2.30 TOIXIDE GROUP HANDICAP HURDLE

Table with columns for runner number, name, odds, and jockey. Race includes 2.30 TOIXIDE GROUP HANDICAP HURDLE (24,123: 2m) (15).

Table with columns for runner number, name, odds, and jockey. Race includes 1.40 GLEN INTERNATIONAL BULA HURDLE (Grade II; £9,932: 2m) (8 runners).

Table with columns for runner number, name, odds, and jockey. Race includes 1.30 SUMMIT JUNIOR HURDLE (£26,427: 2m) (16 runners).

Table with columns for runner number, name, odds, and jockey. Race includes 2.0 LINGFIELD PARK HANDICAP CHASE (£10,258: 3m) (7 runners).

Table with columns for runner number, name, odds, and jockey. Race includes 1.45 SOUTH YORKSHIRE ROAD SPECIALISTS NOVICE CHASE (£2,785: 2m) (8 runners).

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Course specialists

Table with columns for Trainers and Jockeys, listing names and their respective win percentages.

Guide to our in-line racecard

Forecast number, Draw in brackets, Se-figures and distance winner. BF=best favourite in latest form (F=), P=pushed up, U=ungraded runner, B=runner in brackets, Trainer, Age and sex of horse, S=stallion, H=horse, H=horse, E=eye-sight, C=private handicapper's rating, Approximate starting course winner, D=distance winner, CD=course record.

NOTTINGHAM

Table with columns for race name, runner number, name, odds, and jockey. Races include 12.45 La Rose Francaise, 1.15 Deon Ventura, 3.15 Willy Bank.

WETHERBY

Table with columns for race name, runner number, name, odds, and jockey. Races include 12.45 Carousel Rocket, 1.15 Fergy Foster, 1.45 Peter Martin, 2.15 Grinders, 2.45 Badsworth Boy, 3.20 Old Meg.

Selections

Table with columns for race name, runner number, name, odds, and jockey. Races include 1.15 TON UP SELLING HURDLE (£731: 2m) (15 runners).

Course specialists

Table with columns for Trainers and Jockeys, listing names and their respective win percentages.

Selections

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Course specialists

Table with columns for Trainers and Jockeys, listing names and their respective win percentages.

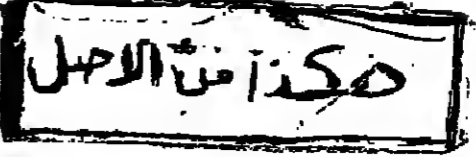
Course specialists

Table with columns for Trainers and Jockeys, listing names and their respective win percentages.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including 'French team bolster', 'German rides for de Haan', 'Yesterdays Cheltenham', and 'Green'.



Tip dusts of... on road... to Aintree... by Michael Scott...



French give New York team kiss of death to bolster White Crusader

From Keith Wheatley, Fremantle

White Crusader soared to fourth place in the America's Cup challenger semi-finals...

On the two reaches French Kiss was able to find the inside berth and an opening... The final windward leg between the two yachts provided one of the most spectacular finishes...

look away from the tactics a little," added Kolius. The other big upset was the challenge...

Grimly Pajot clung on, taking all the heavy punishment thrown at him. The foredeck crew of America II did a superb job...

Jeantot closing the gap

Making most of 60 knot winds in the southern ocean, Philippe Jeantot closed the gap to within 90 miles of French...

Acouita honoured

Paris (AP) — Said Acouita, the Moroccan athlete who won the Mobil Grand Prix track and field competition...

RUGBY LEAGUE

Gregory sits out top Trophy tie

The absence of Ellery Hanley from the Wigan team, following his demand yesterday for a transfer...

Wider entry sought

Next year's fifth British national championships may have a revised format...

Yesterday's racing results from three meetings

Table with racing results for Cheltenham, Southwell, and Devon & Exeter. Columns include race name, winner, and odds.

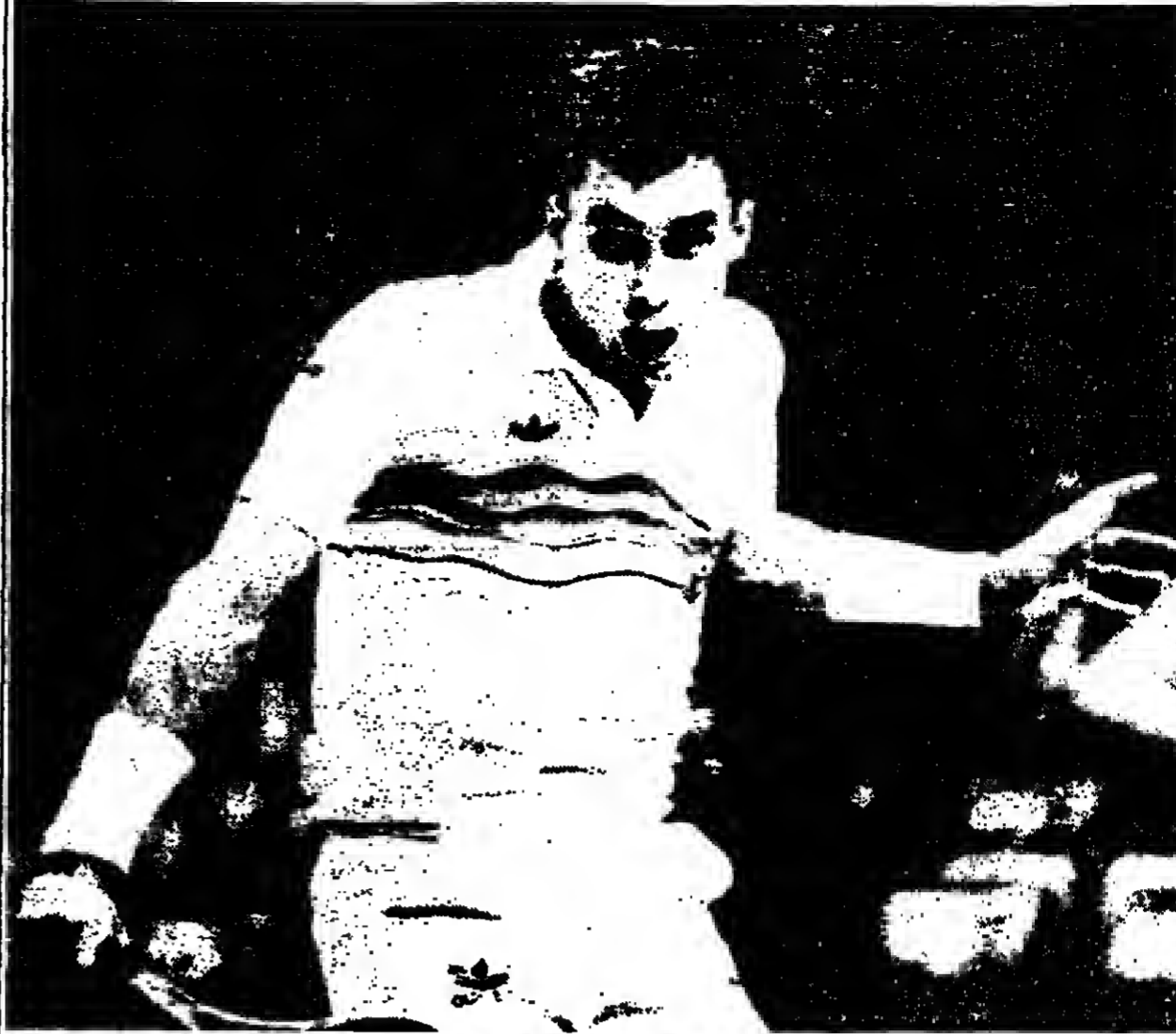
SWIMMING

Leeds set to score fourth triumph

Refreshed after their double successes in Toronto last weekend, Adrian Moorhouse and Tony Day today lead the City of Leeds...

Devon & Exeter

Table with racing results for Devon & Exeter. Columns include race name, winner, and odds.



Ivan Lendl: faltered slightly but eventually overcame the only non-European, Andres Gomez, in the round-robin tournament

BOBSLEIGHING

Olympic champions survive inquiry

There was very nearly a major sensation before the opening round of the World Cup here today...

The princely Swede with a hangdog expression

From Richard Evans, New York

The hangdog expression Edberg adopts on court is strangely at odds with the princely style of his game...

Wider entry sought

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Next year's fifth British national championships may have a revised format...

CRICKET

Botham will not bowl in the third Test

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Melbourne

After being seen by a specialist here yesterday Ian Botham was put on regular heat treatment...

Most fast bowlers are subjected to a similar treatment. Both Willis is here and was no exception...

With Dillee (knee) and Deffenbacher (ankle) among the most significant injuries...

Wider entry sought

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Next year's fifth British national championships may have a revised format...

Cheshire lose their key man

By Sydney Friskin

Cheshire will be without Martyr Grimley for their county championship quarter-final...

Wider entry sought

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Next year's fifth British national championships may have a revised format...

Pakistan bag second spot

Sharjah (AP) — Pakistan beat India by three wickets to bag the Sharjah Cricket Trophy...

The West Indies had been declared champions after beating all the other teams...

Cheshire lose their key man

By Sydney Friskin

Cheshire will be without Martyr Grimley for their county championship quarter-final...

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Tip dusts of... on road... to Aintree... by Michael Scott...

FOOTBALL: DAY OF DECISION FOR FA CUP MINNOWS

Telford likely to win the battle between the leading giant-killers

Ken Wright, the manager of Chorley, summed up the feelings of every club playing in the second round of the FA Cup this weekend when he said: "This is the stage of the competition you want to get through more than any other. We all know we're only 90 minutes away from utopia in the third round."

For the remaining non-league clubs in particular, Monday's draw for the last 64 offers the possibility of financial security for years to come. Just one game against a big first division club could provide more income than a whole season's league matches.

Telford United's tie at home to Altrincham ensures that there will be at least one opportunity to measure up to the third round. The match brings together the two most successful giant-killers of recent years. Telford have knocked out ten League sides in the last five seasons and Altrincham's eleven league victims in 13 years included Birmingham City last season, when they were in the first division.

Current form points to a home win. Telford beat Altrincham 4-0 when the two sides met in the GM Vauxhall Conference recently and they Hillsborough is a win... Hunt was dropped against Arsenal after missing the game through injury. He has had second thoughts. He had paid his fine and has been given his midfield job back. "He passes well and can control the game," said the Villa manager.

Groves '86 could be an Arsenal vintage

By Clive White
Perry Groves may sound like the address of a cider company but, to those who eat and drink Arsenal Football Club, it is a name of a more familiar vintage. It is also a name that is destined to be a household name if this century season for the Gunners coincides with their ninth League championship.

Groves gave a performance brimming with confidence, power and pace that must have been of great consolation to Graham as he lost the services of a renowned striker. Groves is a forward like "Number 9" to whom George Graham, the manager, has given a berth in his championship-chasing side.

When Groves straining his ankle ligaments the other week and missed his only game since coming into the side, it was Allison who had to stand down when he recovered. But there was a genuine pleasure for him when he was in the team as I think he is for me now. I used to travel down to Highbury to watch him when I wasn't playing. So did my parents. In fact, one of the things I collected some complimentary tickets which got them into the directors' box.



Groves: Happy to keep Arsenal's Champagne Charlie on ice

Graham had been watching Groves with a view to buying him when he was manager at Millwall. Now the three of them have come together as Highbury. When Groves straining his ankle ligaments the other week and missed his only game since coming into the side, it was Allison who had to stand down when he recovered.

Just how effectively Groves is doing that can be gauged by the rumours surrounding Nicholas's future. While Champagne Charlie is being kept on ice the toast at Highbury is clearly Champagne Perry.

Hoad heads list of exam failures at PGA school

The PGA European Tour school broke up yesterday, with the customary end-of-term conflict of emotions. There was elation among the 49 who had survived an examination over six rounds to bring home a prize card, paving the way for a chance to rub shoulders with the likes of Ballestrero and Lyle next season. For five nervous wrecks on 432, two over par there is a play-off this morning for the 50th and final place. There was, too, deep despair among those who failed and are left to wonder where their future lies. Would they not perhaps prosper better as grave-diggers or brain surgeons.

Among the failures, alas, was Paul Hoad, whose fortunes have steadily ebbed since 1979, when he was proclaimed Rookie of the Year in a glibly expressive professional golf, from the Americans. Hoad did not play badly over the final days, but not did he play well enough to compensate for the two opening 74s (two over par for the South course and three over for the North). He required a 71, as it turned out, yesterday, which in turn required a 69 to finish on 210. A splendid two at the 210 yard eighth (17th) gave him hope, but a four at the ninth is a tall order, since it measures 595 yards only.

Other failures, alas, were Colin Brooks, the Scottish Amateur champion, suffered a reverse experience. His 71 on Thursday set him off at nine under par but he was in wretched touch yesterday. His card included seven fives and a six and a 78 left him at 435. Mark Davis, England's stroke-play champion with a 1984 retrieved his position of a fine round of golf, 34 out (starting at the 10th) and 35 home, to go from two over par to one under. As a result, he was in a good position to overtake of Long Ashton, did even better, for his 69 carried him into fifth place overall.

McNeill in corner

Billy McNeill, the Aston Villa manager, has been forced into emergency measures to assemble his only 12 experienced players available to play Sheffield Wednesday at Hillsborough. Hunt, the mid-field player, is reinstated after serving his suspension for missing a game through injury. He has had second thoughts. He had paid his fine and has been given his midfield job back.

Today's Team News

- Everton (4) v Norwich City (6)
Nottingham Forest (2) v Manchester City (2)
Oxford United (14) v Luton Town (5)
Sheffield Wednesday (8) v Aston Villa (16)

Wattford (12) v Liverpool (3)

Wattford will be without Mobley (damaged hamstring) and Johnson (back injury). Two reserves, Albert and Hurst, are included in the 15. Wattford add Allen and Skilton to the side which lost at Southampton.

Happy day for Robson

The most happy manager in England yesterday was probably Robson, the guardian of the national team. Three of his defenders, Stevens and Watson, of Everton, and Martin, of West Ham United, are poised to return to League action today.

Scottish premier division

- Celtic v Dundee
Dundee Utd v Aberdeen
Hamilton v Clydebank
Hibernian v Rangers
St Mirren v Hearts

Southern League Premier division

- Basingstoke v Dudley
Romford v Crawley
Barnet v Woking
Farnham v Wokingham
Wokingham v Havant

Show Jumping

Fuchs in top form on Diners
In contrast to the six British riders here, Thomas Fuchs, the top Swiss professional, wasted little time finding top form. He and the 27-year-old Diners were yesterday's top pair in a field of a second ahead of the tough Austrian rider, Thomas Fruemann, who was riding his new horse Zukunf in his only second show.

Weekend Football, Rugby and Other Fixtures

- Second division
Brighton v Bradford
Hull v Grimsby
Luton v Sheffield Utd
Oxford v Shrewsbury
Sunderland v Millwall

FA Cup

- Second round
Aldershot v Colchester
Bournemouth v Orient
Grimsby v Bury
Leeds v Bradford City

Scottish Cup

- First round
Ayr v Annan
Fife v Dundee
Inverness v Alloa

Southern League

- First division
Basingstoke v Dudley
Romford v Crawley
Barnet v Woking

Regional Television Variations

A grid of television listings for various regions including BBC1, BBC2, Granada, and others, listing programs and times.

Malcolm Pirah and the 7-year-old Straightaway, collected their only titles at the combinations - in their case at the middle part. The centre-piece of this show is tomorrow afternoon's World Cup qualifier in which all the British riders, currently low down on the standings for the European League, are anxious to acquire points. Only the top two at the end of the series qualify for the final in 15th place is the highest of the British riders competing here.

RESULTS: 1. Diners (T Fuchs, Swift 0 in 34.1) seconds; 2. Zukunf (T Fruemann, Swift 1) 34.2; 3. Pythasia (P Dolevau, Fr 0 in 34.5)

A large vertical advertisement or sidebar containing various text elements, possibly related to the magazine's content.



